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1916



LESSON BOOK  
FOR THE  
RELIGION CLASSES  
IN THE  
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF  
LATTER-DAY SAINTS



FIRST AND SECOND  
GRADES

PUBLISHED BY THE  
GENERAL BOARD OF RELIGION CLASSES  
NINETEEN HUNDRED SIXTEEN

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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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# INTRODUCTION

## ORGANIZATION OF THE RELIGION CLASSES.

The organization of the Religion Classes is much like that of other organizations in the Chruch; that is, there are general, stake, and ward officers.

The general organization comprises a superintendency of three, a secretary, and a board. This board holds a monthly session; at present it is the first Wednesday of each month. Of the twenty-two persons on the present general board two are members of the First Presidency, nine are Apostles, and two are First Presidents of Seventy. The names of the General Board may be found after the title page of this outline of lessons.

The stake organization conists of a superintendent, two assistants, a secretary, and where necessary, a board of aids. The superintendent must be a man, and it is desirable that his assistants also be men; but the latter may be women. According to a recent action of the General Board of Education, the stake superintendent is a member of the stake Board of Education. The Religion Classes being part of the Church school system, the stake organization has always been closely connected with the stake Board of Education. In practically all the stakes there are monthly union meetings, which are attended by stake and ward workers, and where plans are discussed and suggestions made for the general progress. Some stakes continue thus during the summer months when the classes are not in session, and this idea is warmly commended by the General Board.

The ward organization consists of a principal, who acts without assistants, and a corps of instructors. These may be either men or women. There are four departments to be conducted—the primary, which includes children found in the first two grades of the district school; the first intermediate, which includes those in the third and fourth grades:

second intermediate, pupils of the fifth and sixth grades; the advanced, which comprises those in the seventh and eighth grades. Of course, this division of pupils is only suggestive, though it will be found generally the most convenient; and the officers may make such other groupings, if necessary, as local conditions may require.

#### THE METHOD OF THE RELIGION CLASS WORK.

A Religion Class recitation takes the form of six steps, There are (1) singing, (2) prayer (3) memory exercise, (4) a lesson on some practical aspect of duty with a view to establishing faith and right-living, (5) testimony-bearing, and (6) singing and the benediction. The class remains in session about thirty minutes in the primary grade and about forty minutes in the others. Of this time, the third and fourth steps occupy about twenty minutes, and the fifth step about five minutes—enough time, that is, for three or four children to bear their testimonies,—leaving the rest of the time to be divided among the other three steps.

The first step, as already stated, is singing. Each song is thoroughly learned by heart and its meaning explained to the children, if that meaning is not otherwise perfectly obvious. No musical instrument is used. The children lead the singing, one of them volunteering to stand before the class for this purpose. In this way all the members of the class obtain practice in pitching tunes and conducting. Such singing exercises as are needed in order to learn new songs or practice old ones, are taken here.

The second step is prayer. As in the first step, the teacher asks for volunteers to lead. The child who volunteers, comes before the class, utters the prayer in his own simple words, phrase by phrase, and the class repeats each group of words in concert. If the instructor cannot get any one to volunteer to pray, he opens the class with prayer himself. But this is only at first, when the children are more or less diffident. In case the teacher offers the prayer he makes it short and simple so as not to discourage the efforts of the class.

The third step is a memory exercise. The passage to

be learned is committed to memory in the class. Generally it has a close bearing on the lesson for the day. Some prefer to have the memory gem after the next step as a kind of summary of what has been learned, and there can be no objection to this where it is done with such specific purpose. The manner in which the memory gem is learned is generally this: The instructor gives as much of the quotation as the class can easily keep in mind, then they repeat the phrases; the teacher goes on to the next convenient group of words, which is likewise repeated by the class; then the two groups of words are given by the children; and so on till the whole passage has been learned. Of course, the teacher will have thoroughly learned the memory gem before coming to the class. In this step, therefore, the memory power of the children is trained, while it is most susceptible of discipline, and at the same time they are supplied with beautiful gems of thought which may be of inestimable service to them later in life. Matthew Arnold used to say that everyone should learn a few choice lines of poetry from the masters in order that he might have a standard by which to measure other poetry. This step in Religion Class is admirably adapted for such a purpose.

The fourth step contains the lesson proper. Here the subject-matter, the main thought, is developed, and accordingly demands the greater part of the recitation. There is no outside preparation required on the part of the pupils, except in the way of doing something practical between sessions of the class; there is no book preparation on their part. The lessons are made as concrete as possible, with plenty of narrative and illustrations, so that the interest of the children may be secured.

The fifth step is testimony-bearing. This is an outgrowth of the fourth. If one has done right, what is more natural than to testify to the good feelings one has experienced in doing it? The subject just discussed in the preceding step nearly always furnishes suggestions for proper testimonies. Of course, the children are not expected to testify that they know personally of the existence of God or the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph, though there have been very young children that have done this from per-

sonal knowledge. Whatever the class have themselves experienced, however remarkable or unusual, is legitimate material for testimony. The child has done something for his parents—made a sacrifice of personal interest for them;—this has resulted in a certain uplift of his feelings; accordingly, he may tell the class what that was and how well he felt about the action—a good testimony. Or he has been taught to pray and has received an answer to prayer; here is an opportunity for an expression of the incident and feelings. A testimony actually given by a boy in a Religion Class may be cited. He attended the public school. He found his lessons all very hard for him. Being a member of a Religion Class, he there was taught to pray over anything with which he had trouble. He prayed that the Lord would make his lessons easier, so that he might be able to carry them. And his testimony was that the Lord had answered his prayer. Generally the teacher is required “to kindle the fire,” so to speak, to arouse and direct the interest of the class in a few timely words. The children are quick to respond when they have been warmed.

The sixth step is a combination of the first and second steps—singing and the benediction. Sometimes part of a song is sung at the opening and the rest here. The manner of conducting this step is the same as that of the first.

One further thought may be put plainly. It is necessary for the teacher to do some hard thinking in order to present these lessons properly. Don't expect to find in books much of the material to be given your class. It is, on the contrary, to be found in your own experience and reflection, in the needs and the environment of the children you teach. Seek to become acquainted with the individual needs of your class, look into your own mind and heart and experience, and then, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, endeavor to supply those needs. Take the subject of prayer, for instance. It would be the veriest folly to “read up” on this topic and present to a class the results of one's reading. The teaching would most likely be dry and labored beyond expression. It is rather a thing to think out for oneself. Besides, the subject is really not hard to develop after one has thought much about it. What is prayer? What things

should we pray for? To whom should we pray? Is there any definite way in which prayer is answered? What are the kinds of prayer? These and many other questions easily suggest material for several recitations. And so it is with other subjects in Religion Class.

But this does not mean that the teacher should not read and study much. As a rule, the wider the information of the teacher, the better off he will be for illustrative material; he will have a readier means of conducting an interesting recitation. What is meant is, that he should not read this that, or the other article on any given subject and seek to present to his class just what he has read. His reading should first be absorbed into his own thought-material, digested thoroughly, and then it may be given out with the same effect as if it originated with him.

## RELIGION CLASS MAXIMS.

The aim and object of this work is not so much to teach pupils to know as to lead them to do and to form proper habits of life. This thought should be constantly in the mind of the teacher.

Each of these lessons has for its purpose the forming of some religious habit. Bend all efforts in that direction.

These lessons are suggestive only. Watch the needs of your pupils and supply them if necessary by lessons of your own make.

To encourage the proper application of these lessons review at the beginning of each session the assignment of outside work given at last meeting.

All work outside of class should consist not in the preparation of lessons, but in the practical application of truths learned.

Teachers, remember that the course is a training in practical works and habits and not merely the teaching of gospel lessons. Training in proper religious habits is the work of the Religion Classes.

Habits depend upon many successful repetitions of the same act. Therefore review much.

Character is the sum total of our habits of thought and action.

The religious habits of life should be well established in the years of childhood.

These lessons are not intended to be taught and passed, but to be practiced by teachers and pupils till they result in habit.

The principle of unity in these lessons is religious life, not logical relationship.

# First and Second Grades

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## LESSON 1—FAITH IN GOD.

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children that God is a personal Being, and that man is in the image of God.

*Song:* First and second verses of “All Things Bright and Beautiful” (Primary Song Book, No. 1).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* “So God created man in His own image.”

Lead the children to tell about some of the things God created “in the beginning”—the heavens and the earth, the mountains and hills, the rivers and streams, the grass, the flowers, the trees, all kinds of fruit and vegetables, beasts, birds and fish.

And the last of God’s creations was—? (Man.) Yes, the Bible tells us that God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

After God had created our first parents, Adam and Eve, He placed them in a beautiful garden, called The Garden of Eden. He visited them from time to time and gave them instructions and commandments. But one time Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and they were sent forth from the garden. They were also banished from the presence of God, so that they did not see Him. But sometimes they heard His voice, and angels came and ministered to them.

Adam and Eve told their children about God and about the wonderful things He had done. They told them they had seen God and had talked with Him in the Garden of

Eden. In this way the children of Adam and Eve obtained their knowledge of God.

There were other men who saw God. One of these was Moses. On one occasion Moses went up to a high mountain, and there the Lord appeared to him and talked with him. The Lord said to Moses, "Ye see that ye are created in my image."

One day, when Jesus was talking to His disciples, one of them said, "Lord, show us the Father." Jesus said to the disciple, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." Then the disciples knew that the Father in heaven was just like Jesus.

But after the death of Jesus and the Apostles the people lost the true knowledge of God. Their priests did not teach them the truth concerning God. They told them that God is a spirit, and that He has not got a body of flesh and bones. And the people believed their priests, and they worshiped a god "without body, parts, or passions."

I am going to tell you how the true knowledge of God came back into the world in these latter days. One morning, in the year 1820, a boy named Joseph Smith went to a grove near his father's house and there he knelt down and began to pray. He prayed to the Lord to tell him which of all the churches was the true Church, for he wanted to become a member of the true Church.

While Joseph was praying the heavens opened, and a bright light descended from above. The light descended until it reached the top of the trees above Joseph's head. Joseph looked up, and to his great astonishment he beheld in the midst of the light two heavenly Beings. Who, do you think, they were? They were the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. And they were just like men, but their bodies were far more glorious than the bodies of men.

The Father pointed to His Son and said, "Joseph, this is my beloved Son, hear him." Joseph asked the Lord which of the churches was the true Church, and which he should join. The Lord told him not to join any of them, for they were all wrong. They did not teach the true gospel, nor did they teach the truth about God, for, as you have heard, they taught that God did not have a body. The Lord told

Joseph that the true Church was not on earth, but that in the course of time it would be restored.

Then the Father and the Son returned to heaven, and Joseph went back to his home rejoicing because of the great things he had learned.

*Questions:* Who were the first people on earth? How did Adam and Eve obtain their knowledge of God? How did their children learn about God? Who saw God besides Adam and Eve? What did the Lord say to Moses? For what purpose did Joseph Smith go to the grove? How was his prayer answered? What did Joseph Smith learn that morning? (One of the things he learned is that God is a personal Being, and that man is created in His image.)

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell of their belief in a personal God, and to give reasons for their belief.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 2—FAITH.

The object Christ had in telling the parable of the sparrows and the lilies was to implant faith in the hearts of His disciples. The Religion Class teacher will use it for the same purpose.

As I was coming to Religion Class today I saw a number of little, gray birds. They were—(let the children guess)—sparrows. They were hopping about in the street looking for—? Who made the sparrows? Yes, and our Heavenly Father feeds them, too. There is a little song that says (have children repeat several times the following, in Primary Song Book, No. 1):

“All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful;  
The great God made them all.”

And on the way to Religion Class I saw something growing in a garden. Guess. Tell me the names of some

of the flowers. And the flowers were made by—? Yes, God made the flowers, and He gave to each flower its own color and fragrance. And the same little song says (have children repeat) :

“Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings—  
He made its flowing colors—  
He made its tiny wings.”

Just think what a dreary world this would be if there were no flowers nor birds in it. I know you all feel thankful to God for sending us the birds and flowers. Let us sing a song of thanksgiving to God for the birds and the flowers. (Sing the two verses.)

*Prayer in concert.*

*Memory Gem:* “My God shall supply all your need.” (Lead the children to understand that their Heavenly Father will give them—not always things that they want, but—things that are needful for them.

Tell, in your own language, the following story:

#### HOW THE SPARROWS AND THE LILIES TAUGHT FAITH.

What a delightful thing it would be if Jesus were to come to our class today and tell us a story! I am sure we would never forget it. How many of you would like to hear Jesus tell a story? Well, you will hear Him tell one. He will not come here and tell it Himself, but I will tell it to you, just as He told it to His disciples. It is such a beautiful, true story, and it taught such a great lesson that it was written, and put in the Bible, and thus it was preserved and has come down to us.

Jesus needed men to help Him in the work of preaching the Gospel, so He selected a number of men for this work. They were not rich nor learned men. They were poor and humble, but they were good men, and when the Lord called them to help Him they left all that they had and followed him.

I know men who do the same thing today. When the

Lord calls them, they leave their homes and loved ones, also their business, and go out into the world to preach the Gospel. Who are these men? Yes, they are the missionaries of our Church. How many of you would like to go on missions when you grow up?

Well, after Jesus had chosen His disciples, he laid His hands upon their heads and ordained them. They had authority to preach the Gospel and to baptize people who believed the Gospel. Then Jesus said to them: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Take neither gold, nor silver, nor brass with you, neither two coats, for the workman is worthy of his meat."

How surprised the disciples were when they heard this. They had not thought of such a thing. They thought they could take money and extra clothing with them. But Jesus had forbidden them to take either. They began to talk among themselves. They said, "The Master has commanded us to go out and preach the Gospel, and He has told us not to take any money with us, neither are we to take two suits. Who does He expect to feed us? By whom does He expect us to be clothed?"

Now, Jesus knew what they were talking about, so He called them to Him and said, "Do not take any thought for the morrow what ye shall eat or drink, or what ye shall wear. As for your food, look at the sparrows, they do not sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not of more value than many sparrows? And as for your clothing, look at the lilies of the field. They toil not, neither do they spin, and yet your Heavenly Father clothes them. And if God gives clothing to the flowers, don't you think He will clothe you?"

Then the disciples looked at each other, and they felt ashamed that they had not had greater faith in their Heavenly Father. They said to themselves, "Why did we doubt? Surely He who feeds the sparrows, and clothes the lilies will feed and clothe us."

Then they went forth on their missions. They preached the Gospel to the people; they healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, opened the eyes of the blind, made the lame to walk, and cast out evil spirits. When they came back from their

mission Jesus asked them if they had lacked anything. They answered that they had not; that people had been very kind to them, had provided them with food and clothing, and, in fact, all that they needed. And they had learned the truth of the lesson Jesus had taught them—that as their Heavenly Father fed the sparrows, and clothed the flowers of the field, so He would provide for the needs of His servants.

*Questions:* What lesson can we learn from the sparrows and lilies? Are there any missionaries from this ward out in the world preaching the Gospel? Who are they? How can we help them? (By praying for them morning and evening, etc.)

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 3—FAITH IN THE BOOK OF MORMON.

This lesson is designed to create in the hearts of the children faith in the Book of Mormon.

*Song:* First verse of "We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 102).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "We believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God."

Bring the Book of Mormon to the class. Let the children handle it and examine it. Ask them if they would like you to tell them how we got the book. Tell, in your own language, the following story:

### HOW JOSEPH SMITH GOT THE BOOK OF MORMON.

I am sure you have all heard of the Prophet Joseph Smith. Let me see the hands of all those who have heard of the Prophet Joseph. One morning, when Joseph Smith was a boy, he went into the woods to pray, and while he was praying a wonderful thing happened. Who can tell me what happened? Yes, our Heavenly Father and His Son

Jesus Christ came down from heaven, in a pillar of light, and talked with Joseph.

Some time after this an angel came one night to Joseph Smith and told him about a holy book, made of gold plates, which was hidden in a hill called Cumorah, not far from Joseph's home. The angel told Joseph that at a certain time the Lord would permit him to take the sacred book out of the hill, and would give him power to translate it into English, the language we speak.

After breakfast the next morning, Joseph went into the field to help his father with the farm work. But Joseph did not feel well that morning and was not able to do his work, so his father told him to go home and rest. As Joseph was going to his home the angel met him. The angel told Joseph to go back to his father, and tell him all that had happened.

When Joseph told his father about the sacred book which the angel had told him about, which was hid in the hill Cumorah, Mr. Smith was surprised. But he believed all that Joseph said, for he knew that his boy would not tell him a falsehood. He told Joseph to be a good boy, and to do all that the angel had told him to do.

Joseph was true and faithful, and, because of his faithfulness, the Lord loved him. When the appointed time came, Joseph went to the hill Cumorah, and there he met the angel. Joseph removed some of the earth, and there before him lay the stone box. He took the lid off the box, and to his great joy he saw the sacred book, made of plates that looked like gold. Joseph lifted the plates carefully, put them in a bag he had brought with him and took them to his home, where he hid them, lest wicked men should get them and destroy them.

With the plates were two clear stones, set in rims like spectacles. The Lord had prepared these stones to help Joseph translate the writing on the plates. The Lord appointed men to write for Joseph while the Prophet translated, and with the help of the Lord and these good men Joseph translated the book.

One day Joseph and three other men went into the

woods to pray. The three men who went with Joseph were Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris. While they were praying, the angel came and stood before them. He held the plates in his hands. He showed the plates to the three witnesses. He turned the leaves over, and the brethren saw the writing on them, and while they were looking at the plates they heard a voice speaking to them out of heaven. It was the voice of God. The Lord told them that Joseph had translated the writing on the plates correctly, and that the book is true.

This, children, is the book. (Show Book of Mormon.) It teaches us about God and His Son Jesus Christ, and about the great and marvelous things They did for the ancient inhabitants of this land.

*Questions:* What did Joseph Smith learn from the angel? What did Joseph find in the box with the plates? What were the stones for? What did Joseph and the three witnesses see and hear in the woods? Repeat the memory gem: "We believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God."

*Testimonies:* Lead children to tell of blessings they have received from the Lord through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 4—REPENTANCE.

*Song:* First verse of "I'm Not Too Young for God to See" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 8.)

Prayer in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

"He listens to the words I say,  
And knows the thoughts I have within;  
And whether I'm at work or play,  
He's sure to know it if I sin."

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children that

the eyes of the Lord are always upon them; that He sees everything they do, and knows the very thoughts of their hearts. When they do wrong they must repent, confess the wrong, and pray for forgiveness. Ask a few questions like the following: How do parents feel when their children do wrong? How do children feel? Who watches over us besides our parents? And our Heavenly Father sees everything we do. And He knows the very thoughts of our hearts, too. We displease our Heavenly Father when we do wrong. When we do wrong we should feel sorry and should pray to our Heavenly Father to forgive us. And when we repent of a wrong we have done our Heavenly Father will forgive us, and will give us His Holy Spirit to make us feel happy. I am going to tell you about a little boy who did wrong and who afterwards repented.

#### THE BOY AND THE POCKET KNIFE.

The boy's name is Harry. He is 10 years of age. He lives in Salt Lake City. He is a good boy and his parents and teachers and playmates love him. He has been a member of Religion Classes three years.

Shortly before school commenced last year Harry became very ill. He had to stay in bed nearly two weeks. He was not able to eat food for almost a week. One day he said to his mother, "Mother, I believe if the bishop were to come and administer to me I would get well." (Ask the children if they have ever seen a sick person administered to. What did the elders of the Church do? Why do elders of the Church anoint sick people with oil and pray for them?) Harry's mother sent for the bishop, and the good man and one of his counselors came and administered to the sick boy. When the bishop entered the room he shook hands with Harry and said, "Harry, I am sorry to see you lying on a sick bed. The Religion Classes will begin their work soon, and I would like to see you enrolled the first day."

Harry said, "Bishop, if the Lord will make me well I will try to attend the classes every week during the year."

The bishop and his counselor prayed for Harry. The bishop told Harry he believed the Lord would heal him

soon. And the Lord did heal the boy, and two days later he went to the store on an errand for his mother.

A week later school commenced and also the Religion Classes. Harry's name was near the top of the Religion Class roll. One Tuesday afternoon, as Harry was returning from school, he found a little pearl-handled pocket knife lying on the sidewalk. He picked it up and examined it. It was almost new. It had two blades and a little nail file. Harry opened the knife and began to sharpen his pencil. How sharp the blades were! Then he filed his nails with the little file. A boy was coming up the street, so Harry shut the knife and put it in his pocket.

Harry did not tell anyone at home about his find. That night, when he was going to bed, the knife fell out of his pocket, and as he picked it up he thought he heard a little voice say, "The knife doesn't belong to you, and it shouldn't be in your pocket. It belongs to another little boy. You give it back to him." Harry did not feel happy, and he did not rest very well that night.

At school next morning he heard that Alma Peterson had lost a pocket knife. Harry felt that he should go to Alma and give him the knife. But, for some reason, he did not do so. Several times during the day Harry took the knife out of his pocket and looked at it, and each time he admired it more than before.

At the close of school nearly all the boys and girls went to Religion Class. In Harry's class the lesson was Repentance. The teacher told the children that the eyes of the Lord are always upon them; that the Lord knows all they do and think and say; that when they do right the Lord is pleased with them, and when they do wrong He is displeased. Harry's cheeks grew red and began to burn. He knew his teacher spoke the truth. He imagined he could see God looking straight at him, and that God knew he had Alma Peterson's knife in his pocket.

Just before the teacher had finished the lesson she said, "Now, when any of you children do wrong, you must repent of the wrong and do it no more, and you must also ask forgiveness. If you do this the Lord will forgive you and bless you." Then she asked the class if any of them wished

to speak. Harry raised his hand. The teacher told him he might speak. He said, tremblingly, "Yesterday afternoon, when I was coming home from school, I found this pocket knife. I heard this morning that it belongs to Alma Peterson. I felt that I should take it to him, but I did not do so. I know that it was wrong for me to keep the knife. Now I give it back and ask Alma to forgive me."

"O thank you, Harry!" said Alma. "I am so glad to get my knife back again. It was a birthday present from my father. Of course I forgive you, Harry."

"And you must ask someone else to forgive you, Harry," said the teacher.

"Yes, ma'am, I ask the Lord to forgive me."

Harry felt very happy that afternoon as he went home from Religion Class.

*Testimonies:* Encourage some of the members to express their feelings.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer in concert.*

## LESSON 5—REPENTANCE.

*Song:* First and second verses of "I'm Not Too Young for God to See" (Primary Song Book, No. 8.)

*Prayer in concert.*

*Memory Gem:* "Cease to do evil, learn to do well."

Sometimes little boys and girls do things that are wrong. Then their parents feel bad. (Lead the children to tell things that boys and girls do that wound the feelings of their parents.) How does our Heavenly Father feel when children do wrong? When children hurt the feelings of their parents what should the children do? Who else should they ask to forgive them? I am going to tell you today about a boy who went contrary to the wishes of his parents, who caused his father and mother much sorrow, and who suffered a great deal because of the evil things he did.

The story I am going to tell you was told by Jesus. I know you like to hear the stories of Jesus. He told the best stories the world has ever heard. He was the best Teacher the world has ever seen. How thankful we should

feel to our Heavenly Father for sending His Son Jesus Christ to earth to teach the people such good things.

One time certain people were finding fault with Jesus because He was receiving sinners and eating with them. They did not think it was right for the Savior, who was such a good, holy Man, to associate with people who were not living good lives. Jesus told them He had been sent to these people. He was teaching them to repent of their sins and to do right. Then their Heavenly Father would forgive them and bless them. Then He told the people who had been finding fault with Him the following story:

#### STORY OF THE YOUNGER SON.

Jesus said: A certain man had two sons. One day the younger son said to his father, "Father, I want you to give me the money I have earned. I do not want to stay on the farm any longer. I want to go to the city and live there." His father was very sorry when he heard this. He pleaded with his son to stay at home and not to go to the city. But the son would not listen to the pleadings of his father. He took the money and went to the city. There he met a number of young men about his own age, and he made friends with them. He spent his money freely with them, drinking, feasting, and in other sinful ways.

The father thought often of his boy who had gone away from home. Every morning and evening he prayed for him. He prayed that the Lord would watch over him, and take care of him, and bring him back home. Day after day the father would go out and look down the road, in the hope of seeing his son. But the son did not come. Still the father hoped and prayed.

At last all the money the young man had taken away with him was spent. Then his friends left him and went their way. The young man was now poor and penniless. He had no money with which to buy food, and he was starving with hunger. He went to a man who owned a large number of hogs and engaged himself as the man's servant. The man sent him into the fields to feed and tend the hogs. He did not get enough food to eat, so he had to take

some of the food that belonged to the hogs. His clothing was soiled and shabby, and he was a pitiable sight.

One day as he was sitting in the field tending the hogs, he began to think of his good, kind, loving parents, and the good home he had left. He said to himself, "How foolish I was to leave my home, where I had everything I needed, and servants to wait on me! O how I wish I were back in my father's house! I wonder if my father would take me back?"

And as he thought over these things he said, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.'"

So he left the field and the hogs and started for his home. It was a long way, and he had to walk the entire distance. He was tired and hungry and covered with dust when he came in sight of his home. Now, his father had gone out of the house, and was standing looking down the road. And, behold, he saw his son coming toward him. The heart of the father was filled with joy. The good man ran down the road to meet his long-lost boy, and when he met his son he took him to his arms and kissed him. And the son fell on his father's neck and wept. Then the father took his son home and presented him to his mother, and the mother cried for joy when she saw her boy.

The young man felt very sorry for what he had done. He broke down and cried again. Then he said to his father, "Father, I am not worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants."

But the father called to his servants and said, "Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fat-tail calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost and is found." And they began to be merry.

Then Jesus said to the people, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." And the people learned from the story of Jesus that as the earthly father forgave his repentant son, so the

Heavenly Father forgives those who sincerely repent of their sins and strive to do right.

*Questions:* What did the younger son ask of his father? What did the son do after he had got the money? How did he spend the money? After he had spent all his money what did he do? What were his thoughts as he sat in the field? What did he decide to do? How did his father receive him? What did Jesus say to the people? Have children repeat in concert, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

*Testimonies:* Encourage children to tell of blessings they have received from the Lord and their parents.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 6—BAPTISM.

*Song:* First verse of "Because He loves me so" (Primary Song Book, No. 3).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory gem:* "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

I know something you little boys and girls must do when you are eight years of age. Who can tell me what it is? Why are we baptized? Have you ever seen boys and girls baptized? How were they baptized? Who said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved?" Would you like to hear the story about the baptism of Jesus? I will tell it to you.

### THE BAPTISM OF JESUS.

Many years ago there lived in Jerusalem a grand old man, named Zacharias. His wife's name was Elizabeth. They were very good people. All the days of their life they had served the Lord, and the Lord was well pleased with them, and blessed them greatly, as you will hear.

But Zacharias and his wife had had a great trial. They had been married many years, and yet during all that time

no baby had come to bless their home. They had prayed often that the Lord might send them a baby, and yet their prayers had not been answered. But they did not lose faith. They felt that some time their prayers would be answered. And so they were.

Zacharias was a priest. He worked in the Temple in Jerusalem. One day when Zacharias had finished his work, he went into one of the rooms in the Temple and knelt down and began to pray. Now, what do you think he prayed for? Yes, he prayed for a son.

When Zacharias had finished his prayer he looked up, and there beside him stood a beautiful angel, clothed in white. Who had sent the angel to Zacharias? What message had the angel brought? Yes, he had brought Zacharias the glad tidings that the Lord was going to send him and his wife Elizabeth a baby boy.

Zacharias was frightened when he saw the angel; but the heavenly messenger said to him, "Fear not, Zacharias, for thy prayer is heard, and thy wife Elizabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. He shall be filled with the Spirit of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He shall go before the Lord to prepare His way."

Zacharias hastened to his home and told his wife Elizabeth the joyful tidings the angel had brought him. Elizabeth was filled with joy, and rejoiced and gave thanks and praise to God.

And, in the course of time, the promise of the angel was fulfilled. The Lord sent Zacharias and Elizabeth a baby boy. You can imagine how happy these good, old people felt when the dear, sweet baby came to their home. The baby was blessed and given the name John. The angel, you will remember, said he was to be called by this name.

John, the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth, grew to be a man. His parents had taken great care of him, and had taught him the commandments of the Lord. He was a child of promise, and his father and mother felt that God had a great mission for him to perform in the world. And so He had. John had a greater work to do than had been done by any other man. You will hear what it was soon.

John prepared himself well for his mission. He never touched either wine or strong drink. He ate very simple food—locusts and wild honey. He dressed in plain, coarse clothing—a garment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle around his loins. He spent a great deal of time in the desert, fasting and praying and studying the scriptures.

At last the voice of the Lord came to him, calling him to go into the cities, towns and villages and preach to the people. He was to call them to repentance, and to tell them to be baptized in water for the remission of their sins. He was also to tell them that Jesus, their Savior and King, would soon appear among them.

Many people believed John and repented of their sins. Then they went down to the river Jordan, and there John baptized them by putting them down under the water, just as the Elders of our Church do today.

And while John was thus baptizing who, do you think, came to him? Yes, Jesus came. And Jesus requested John to baptize Him. Now, John did not consider himself worthy to baptize Jesus. Jesus was far greater than John. He was the Son of God, the Savior of the world, so John said to Him, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" But Jesus said to John, "Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." Then John took Jesus down into the river Jordan and baptized Him by burying Him in the water. And when Jesus had come out of the water, the heavens were opened unto Him, and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, came down and rested upon Him. Then a voice was heard from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Now, if it were necessary for Jesus to be baptized in order to fulfil all righteousness, it is more necessary for us to be baptized in order that we may fulfil all righteousness. The Lord has said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Have the children repeat the passage in concert.)

*Questions:* How was the prayer of Zacharias answered? Why was the child called John? How did John prepare himself for his mission? What did John tell the

people? Why was Jesus baptized? The Lord said to the Prophet Joseph Smith, "And their children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old." (Let children repeat this in concert.)

*Testimonies:* Lead pupils to express a desire to be baptized when they are eight years of age.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 7—BAPTISM.

The aim of this lesson is to impress the children with the necessity of baptism.

*Song:* First verse of "I think when I read that sweet story of old" (Primary Song Book, No. 11). Let a member of the class lead.

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory gem:* "Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

In our song today we sang about the time Jesus was here among men. Last week you were told something Jesus did when He was on earth. (He was baptized.) Who baptized Jesus? Where was Jesus baptized? How was He baptized? What happened at the baptism of Jesus?

Now, I am going to tell you something else Jesus did when He was here among men. (Tell, in your own language, the following:)

### JESUS AND NICODEMUS.

After His baptism, Jesus went from city to city and preached the Gospel to the people. He also performed mighty miracles among them. He healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, opened the eyes of the blind, made the lame walk, the deaf hear, and the dumb speak. Yes, and He even raised the dead to life. God, His Heavenly Father, had given Him power to do all these things.

One evening, when Jesus was staying at the home of a friend, a man called to see Him. The good man of the house told Jesus a man wanted to speak with Him. Jesus

went out and received the man very kindly. They sat down together.

The man who had come to see Jesus was named Nicodemus. He was a ruler and a teacher among the Jews. He knew that Jesus was a great Teacher, and that He had done many great and mighty works. So he said to Jesus: "Rabbi (that means, Master), we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." Jesus was pleased when He heard this—pleased to hear Nicodemus say he knew that He was a Teacher sent from God. All people who have a desire to be saved in the kingdom of God must believe this—that Jesus came from God, and that He is the Son of God.

Jesus looked at the Jewish ruler and said, "Nicodemus, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

This surprised Nicodemus very much. He did not understand what Jesus meant by being born again. He thought that Jesus meant that a man would have to become a little child again. Then Jesus said to Nicodemus, "I see you do not understand me. You think I mean that a man must become a child again. I do not mean that. I mean that a man must be born of water" (that is, baptized in water) "and born of the Spirit" (that is, receive the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands). And "except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Then Nicodemus knew what Jesus meant by a man being "born of water and of the Spirit." He remembered that John the Baptist had baptized people in water. And John had told the people he baptized that when Jesus would come He would baptize them with the Holy Spirit. Then they would be "born of water, and of the Spirit." And Nicodemus remembered also that Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan. And when Jesus had come up out of the water the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, came down and rested upon Him. And thus Jesus was "born of water, and of the Spirit." So when Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God," He meant

that men would have to follow His example, and do as He had done or they could not be saved.

Nicodemus thanked Jesus for the things He had taught him. Then he bade the Lord good-night and returned to his home, thinking seriously about the wonderful things he had heard from the lips of the Savior.

*Questions:* What did Jesus say to Nicodemus? (Have children repeat the passage in concert.) What did Jesus mean by a man being "born of water?" "And of the Spirit?" What did John teach the people? How was Jesus "born of water, and of the Spirit?"

*Testimonies:* Lead members of the class to tell how children, when eight years of age, can follow the example of Jesus and be "born of water, and of the Spirit."

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 8—CONFIRMATION.

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children how they may receive the Holy Spirit.

*Song:* First verse of "Let the Holy Spirit guide" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 94).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory gem:* "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

These, you will remember, are the words which were spoken by Jesus to Nicodemus. What did Jesus mean by a man being "born of water?" Jesus obeyed this heavenly law. Who baptized Jesus? Where was Jesus baptized? How did John baptize Jesus? And thus you see how Jesus was "born of water." After Jesus had been baptized what happened? (The heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, descended and rested upon Him. And a voice was heard from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.") Then Jesus was "born of the Spirit." Why was the Heavenly Father pleased with Jesus? (Because He had obeyed His laws.)

## GIVING OF THE HOLY GHOST.

Jesus' disciples were also baptized in water. But they did not receive the Holy Spirit when they were baptized. They did not need the Holy Spirit then, for they had Jesus with them, to teach and comfort them. Jesus told them that when He returned to His Heavenly Father He would send the Holy Spirit to them.

After Christ had risen from the dead He met with His apostles. He breathed on them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." Some time after this He left the earth and went back to His Father in heaven. Now, the apostles remembered the promise Jesus had made to them—that after He had returned to His Father He would send them the Holy Spirit. The Spirit would teach them all things, would bring to their remembrance the things Jesus had taught them, and show them things to come. So they went to Jerusalem, as Jesus had commanded them. There they met together in a house and prayed earnestly to the Father in Heaven. What do you think they prayed for? Yes, they prayed for the Holy Spirit. And while they were praying, "suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues, like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them: and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

That day the promise made by Jesus was fulfilled. The apostles were baptized with the Holy Spirit, and thus, like their Lord and Master, they were "born of water and of the Spirit." After the apostles had received the Holy Spirit they were, as you have heard, able to speak with new tongues. They were able to prophesy; they had visions and dreams and revelations. On one occasion when one of Jesus' disciples (Stephen) was being stoned to death by wicked men he was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then the heavens were opened to him, and by the power of the Spirit he saw God sitting upon His throne, and Jesus standing at His right hand.

Now, you all know that in these latter days the Lord

restored the Gospel to the Prophet Joseph Smith. One day when Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were praying in the woods, John the Baptist came to them. John, you remember, was the man that baptized Jesus. John laid his hands on the head of Joseph and Oliver and conferred upon them the Aaronic Priesthood. That gave Joseph and Oliver authority to baptize people for the remission of their sins. The following month the Apostles Peter, James and John were sent to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery. The Apostles placed their hands on the head of Joseph and Oliver and gave them authority to lay their hands on the heads of baptized believers and pray for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost.

Many people have been baptized and confirmed members of the Church, and all who have received these sacred ordinances with honest hearts have received the gift of the Holy Ghost. They have been born of the water, and of the Spirit, and, through their faithfulness, they will be saved in the kingdom of God.

The Lord gave a commandment to the Prophet Joseph Smith that all children of Latter-day Saint parents are to be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years of age. After children are baptized what other ordinance do they receive? (They receive the laying on of the hands of Elders of the Church. Let members of the class tell about this ordinance, which they have observed at fast meetings.) Through the laying on of the Elders' hands, and also through prayer, the children that are baptized receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and thus, like Jesus, they are "born of water and of the Spirit."

*Questions:* What promise did Jesus make to His apostles? When was this promise fulfilled? What blessings did the apostles enjoy after they had received the Holy Spirit? Tell me about Stephen's vision. How did Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery get authority to baptize? How did they get authority to lay on hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost? At what age are children of the Saints to be baptized? And after baptism they receive what? (The laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.)

*Testimonies:* Lead children to express a desire to be

baptized and confirmed members of the Church when they are eight years of age.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 9—THE SACRAMENT.

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children the importance of, and reverence for, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

*Song:* First verse of "Because He loves me so" (Primary Song Book, No. 3).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory gem:* "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you."

How many members of the class were at Sunday School last Sunday? Tell me some things that were done at Sunday School. And the priests took bread and broke it into little pieces. Then what did one of the priests do? Yes, he prayed, and asked the Heavenly Father to bless the bread to the souls of all those who would eat of it. What should little boys and girls do while the blessing is being asked on the bread and water? (Fold their hands, bow their heads and close their eyes.) We bow our heads and close our eyes so that we will think of one thing only. What is it? (The death of Jesus.) Now, when the deacons pass the bread and water to us, which hand should we take them with? The bread is the emblem of—? (The body of Jesus.) And the water is the emblem of—? (The blood of Jesus.) So we eat the bread and drink the water in remembrance of the body and blood of Jesus. And the Lord has promised a great blessing to all those who partake of the Sacrament worthily. He has promised to give them His Holy Spirit.

### INSTITUTION OF THE SACRAMENT.

It was the Lord Jesus who first administered the Sacrament. Shortly before His death Christ and His disciples met together in an upper room in Jerusalem. Jesus looked

very sad. Do you know the reason? Yes, He was soon going to die, soon to be put to death by wicked men. And Jesus knew this. But He was willing to die. He had come to earth to die for the sins of the world. And He wanted His disciples, and all who became members of His Church, to remember Him and the great sacrifice He made for them—the giving of His precious life.

You know, there is a certain day each year on which people in all parts of this land go to the cemeteries and put flowers on the graves of their relatives and friends. What day is it? And people put flowers on the graves of their loved ones to show that they still remember them.

Well, Jesus wanted His disciples to remember Him after He had gone back to His Father in heaven, and so He instituted the Sacrament among them. He first took bread and broke it. Then He blessed it and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is my body." Then He took wine and blessed it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my blood, which is shed for many." He told them that when they partook of the Sacrament it would show that they remembered Him. Another thing He told them—if they failed to meet together often and partake of the bread and wine, His Father in heaven would not be pleased with them, and would not bless them with His Holy Spirit.

After Christ had risen from the dead He came to this land and ministered to the Nephites. He taught them the same Gospel He had taught the people in Palestine, and wrought the same miracles among them. And He also administered the Sacrament to them, the same as He had done among His disciples in Palestine.

And when the Gospel was restored in these latter days, through the Prophet Joseph Smith, the Lord told the Prophet Joseph to give the Sacrament to all those who repented of their sins, and who were baptized and confirmed members of the Church.

But the Lord told Joseph to use water instead of wine, because the wine today is not pure as was the wine in the days of Jesus.

There is a little verse I would like you to repeat. (Have children repeat the following):

“I come to Thee all penitent;  
 I show my love for Thee;  
 Dear Savior, in this Sacrament  
 I do remember Thee.”

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell how they can show the Lord that they are worthy to partake of the Sacrament. (By obeying their parents, by being kind and loving, and by having clean hands and faces.)

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 10—PRAYER.

*Song:* First verse and chorus of “Ere you left your room this morning” (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 250).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory gem:* “Ask and ye shall receive.”

Prepare the minds of the children for the lesson by asking a few questions like the following: Who said, “Ask and ye shall receive?” Who is Jesus? Where is He now? Can He hear us when we pray? When should we pray? What should we pray for in the morning? In the evening? What did Jesus say? Would you like to hear how the Lord answered a little boy’s prayer?

### HOW LITTLE GEORGE FOUND HIS PARENTS.

The little boy I am going to tell you about is named George. He lives with his parents in Arizona. He is a little “Mormon” boy. When he was four years of age he went to the Sunday School kindergarten. And when he was six years of age he went to Primary and Religion Class. And he learned many good lessons in these organizations. One of the lessons he learned was to —. Yes, he learned to pray. But he had learned to pray before he went to Sunday School. Who, do you think, first taught him to pray? It was his mother. He learned to pray when he was a little child. Every morning and evening he knelt at his mother’s

knee and said a little prayer. This is the little prayer he repeated each evening. (Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes while they repeat the following prayer):

“Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me,  
    Bless Thy little lamb tonight;  
Through the darkness be Thou near me,  
    Keep me safe till morning light.

“Through this day Thy hand hath led me,  
    And I thank Thee for Thy care;  
Thou hast warmed and clothed and fed me;  
    Listen to my evening prayer.

“Let my sins be all forgiven;  
    Bless the friends I love so well:  
Take me when I die to heaven,  
    Happy there with Thee to dwell. Amen.”

One afternoon George's parents left home to go and visit George's grandfather and grandmother. George was at the home of a neighbor. It was the intention of his parents to return early in the evening. George returned home and waited for his parents. But they did not come back. After waiting a long time he decided to go and try to find them. He started out across the fields, but soon it grew dark and he lost his way. There was no moon or stars to give him light. He did not know what to do, so he sat down in the field and began to cry.

Then the story he had heard in Sunday School the previous Sunday came to his mind. It was the story of the Good Shepherd, who went out into the wilderness in search of one of his sheep that had got lost. And the shepherd found the sheep and brought it back to the fold. And George also remembered the little memory gem. (Have children repeat it), “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.” The teacher had told the children that Jesus was the Good Shepherd and that they were His little lambs.

Then George knew what he should do. He would pray and ask the Lord to guide him to his parents. He knelt

upon the ground and prayed this little prayer, "Dear Lord Jesus, I have lost my way and am out here in the fields. I want to find my parents. Dear Lord Jesus, guide me to them. Amen." As soon as he had finished his prayer a little voice whispered to him, "Call your parents." George rose to his feet and began to shout as loudly as he could, "O father! O, mother! O, father! O, mother!" Then, to his great joy, he heard, "O, George! O, George!" George followed the sound of the voice and in a short time he was in the arms of his parents.

*Questions:* What do you think of George's early training? What did his mother teach him to do? How did the little prayer help him? How was his prayer answered? How did he feel when he found his parents? How did his parents feel? What did George and his parents do that night?

*Testimonies:* Lead three or four of the children to express their thoughts on prayer.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer in concert.*

## LESSON 11—WORD OF WISDOM.

*Song:* First verse of "In our lovely Deseret" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 114).

*Prayer in concert.*

*Memory gem:* "Verily thus saith the Lord, tobacco is not good for man."

Sometimes little boys and girls get sick through eating things that are not good for them. There was a little girl sick on a train a short time ago because she had eaten too much \_\_\_\_? (Candy.) And there is something else we should not eat much of. What is it? (Meat.) And there is another thing that no boy or man should ever put in his mouth. (Tobacco.)

A number of boys were sitting smoking behind a barn. They heard some one coming. What, do you think, they did? Why did they throw their cigarettes away? (Because they were ashamed of their conduct.) But One who is greater than man saw them. Who? What did the Lord

say to the Prophet Joseph Smith concerning tobacco? (Have children repeat in concert, "Tobacco is not good for man.")

Once a young man was riding on a train in England. At a certain place an elderly man entered the carriage and sat down. Taking out a cigar, he said to the young man, "You do not mind me smoking?" The young man answered, "I do not mind you smoking if you do not mind me being sick." The elderly man did not light his cigar. What lesson had the young man learned? (That "tobacco is not good for man.")

A man wanted a boy to work in his office, so he put an advertisement in the daily papers. The next morning he sat in his office waiting for boys to come to apply for the position. Now, while this man smoked, he did not want a boy who used tobacco. The man was sitting smoking a cigarette when a boy entered and applied for the job. The man looked at him and asked his name. "Well, George," he said, "you look like a smart boy." Then he added, "You smoke cigarettes, of course?" "Sure," said the boy as he looked at the burning cigarette between the man's fingers. "I thought you did," said the employer, "I see the yellow stains on your fingers. Well, I don't want you."

A few years ago three young men were called to go on a mission to England. When they arrived in England they were appointed to labor in the city of Liverpool. They were good, faithful members of the Church. They had never drunk tea, coffee, wine, beer, or liquor of any kind; they had never used tobacco in any form. When they had been some time in the mission field they made the acquaintance of one of the leading doctors in Liverpool. The doctor invited them to dine with him on a certain evening. The maid who waited at table set wine before the young men, but they would not drink it; they said they had never drunk wine. The doctor told the maid to take the wine away. A little later she brought in four steaming hot cups of coffee, but the missionaries said they did not drink coffee, so the maid took the coffee back to the kitchen. The doctor requested the maid to bring in tea, but the young men stopped her, saying they did not drink tea. The doctor looked at them and asked: "What do you drink?" The missionaries smiled and said, "Cold water."

After dinner the doctor took the young men into the library. Then he got a box of cigars and invited them to smoke with him. They shook their heads and said, "Doctor, you will have to excuse us, we do not smoke." Then the doctor said to the missionaries, "You do not drink either tea or coffee, or liquor of any kind, neither do you use tobacco. Well, you are good, wise, sensible fellows."

*Questions and suggestions:* Why did the boy not get the position in the office? How did the man know the boy smoked cigarettes? (He saw the tobacco stains on his fingers.) And by breaking the Word of Wisdom people stain their characters. And God sees the stain on their characters. What do you think of the young missionaries? What did the doctor say to them? Do you think the Lord was pleased with them? Why do you think so?

*Testimonies:* Tell the children how the Lord has promised to bless those who keep the Word of Wisdom. Lead members of the class to express a desire to emulate the example of the young missionaries.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer in concert.*

## LESSON 12—THE SABBATH DAY.

*Song:* First verse and chorus of "Sweet Sabbath Day" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 194.)

*Prayer in concert.*

*Memory Gem:* "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy."

How many days are there in a week? Name the days in their order. Which is the first day of the week? The people in ancient times observed the seventh day as the Sabbath. Why do we observe the first day of the week as the Sabbath? (It is the day in which Christ rose from the dead. And in these latter days the Lord has given a revelation in which He commanded the Saints to observe the first day of the week as the Sabbath.) What is the difference between the Sabbath Day and the other days? (The Sabbath Day is the Lord's day.) Do you know who it was who said, "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy?" The Lord gave

this commandment to Moses, and Moses told the children of Israel that the Lord had said they could work six days in the week, but the seventh day was the Sabbath of the Lord their God. That day they were not to do any work, neither were they to make their servants nor their cattle work. They were to spend the Sabbath in the worship of the Lord their God.

Some people use the Sabbath Day the same as the other days of the week. It is sinful in the sight of the Lord for them to do so. People who do not keep the Sabbath Day holy, but who work or play on that day are not honest people. They are taking that which does not belong to them, and for which they will have to give an account some time. The Sabbath is the Lord's Day. It belongs to Him, and it should be kept holy, as He has said.

Now, supposing your father were going away for a week, and he were to employ a man to work for him six days. And supposing after your father had gone the man were to say to himself, "Mr. —— has engaged me to work for him six days. I will work just five days. One of the days I will stay at home and do my own work, and perhaps Mr. —— will not know anything about it, and will pay me for six days."

What would you say of such a man? (He is dishonest.) How would Mr. —— feel when he found out what the man had done? Yes, he would be greatly displeased with him. Now, sometimes people are able to deceive their fellowmen, but no one can deceive God. God sees and knows everything. He knows the very thoughts that people think. He knows who keep holy the Sabbath Day and those who do not, and He is displeased with those who use the Sabbath for their own profit or pleasure. But those who keep the Sabbath the Lord blesses with His Holy Spirit and they feel happy, and are refreshed for their work.

How can you show the Lord that you reverence—that is, keep holy—the Sabbath Day? (By going to Sunday School, attending meeting, reading good books, etc.) I heard a splendid story about a little Religion Class girl who taught her father to keep the Sabbath Day holy. In the Religion Class one week the children learned the lesson you

are learning today—to keep the Sabbath Day holy. The following Sunday morning, after breakfast, the little girl's father went out and saddled his horse. He was just going to ride off when his little daughter came out of the house, and looking up into her father's face said, "Father, where are you going?" And the father answered, "I am going to round up some cattle." Then the little girl said very seriously and earnestly, "Father, don't you know that it is a sin to ride on Sunday?"

The father looked down into the sweet, angelic face of his little daughter and tears glistened in his eyes. He got down off his horse, took the saddle off the animal and led him back to the stable. And from that day to the present that man has kept the Sabbath Day holy.

*Questions:* What lesson had the little girl learned in the Religion Class? How did the lesson help her? How did she use the lesson? What effect did the lesson have on the life of her father? How are people blessed who keep holy the Sabbath Day? There is a little verse I desire you to repeat after me. Repeat:

"A Sabbath well spent brings a week of content,  
And rest for the toils of the morrow,  
But a Sabbath profaned, whatsoever be gained,  
Is a sure forerunner of sorrow."

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 13—CLEANLINESS.

*Song:* First and second verses of "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 211.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "The Spirit of God will not dwell in unclean tabernacles."

Have any of you ever seen little boys or girls baptized? Why were they baptized? (The Lord has commanded that children be baptized when they are eight years of age.) For what purpose were they baptized? (For the remission of

their sins. In baptism all our sins are washed away, and we stand clean and pure before the Lord.) Have you ever seen children confirmed members of the Church? How were they confirmed? What did they receive when they were confirmed? (The Holy Spirit.) Why did they not receive the Holy Spirit before they were baptized? (Because they had not been cleansed from their sins.) Our memory gem says (have children repeat) "The Spirit of God will not dwell in unclean tabernacles."

Our bodies are tabernacles for the Holy Spirit to dwell in, and we should take as good care of them as possible.

How can we take care of our bodies? (The whole body should be thoroughly washed. The face, hands, neck and wrists should be well washed at least every day. When the skin is washed clean it should be thoroughly dried to prevent chapping.)

How should the nails be kept? (They should be neatly cut and trimmed. They should always be kept clean. They should not be trimmed by biting them.)

How can the hair be kept in order? (It should be combed and brushed at least once a day. The head should be washed now and then thoroughly. Each boy and girl should have a brush and comb. It is not polite to borrow a brush and comb. No oils or pomatum should be put upon the hair; they catch dust and make the hair dirty.)

How should we take care of our teeth? (They should be cleaned with a soft brush every day. They should be kept free from tartar, which crusts about the teeth and makes them decay. Tooth-picks made of wood or quill should be used, and not metal. When teeth begin to decay they should be cared for by the dentist. Tooth-brushes and tooth-picks are not kept to lend.)

We should wear neat, clean, clothes. Let me tell you what a clean apron did. A lady wanted a trusty little maid to help her take charge of a baby. Nobody could recommend one, and she hardly knew where to look for the right kind of a girl. One day she was passing a by-lane and saw a little girl with a clean apron holding a baby in the doorway of a small house.

"This is the maid for me," said the lady. She stopped and asked the girl for her mother.

"Mother has gone out to work," was the reply. "Father is dead, and now mother has to do everything."

"Should you like to come and live with me?" asked the lady.

"I should like to help mother somehow."

The lady, more pleased than ever with the tidy looks of the girl, called to see her mother; and the end of it was she took the maid to live with her, and found—what indeed she expected to find—that the neat appearance of her person showed the neat and orderly bent of her mind. She had no careless habits, she was no friend of dirt; but everything she had to do with was folded up and put away, and kept carefully. The lady finds great comfort in her, and helps her mother, whose lot is not now so hard as it was. She smiles when she says, "Sally's recommendation was her clean apron."—Primer of Politeness.

And now I will tell you about a little boy named Harry. He was leaving home one Sunday morning when his mother stopped him. "Where are you going, Harry?" she asked.

"To Sunday School," was the answer.

"Where is the Sunday School held?"

"Why, in the meetinghouse," of course.

"Whose house is the meetinghouse?"

Harry thought a few seconds, then said: "It belongs to the ward."

"No, you are mistaken," said his mother; "it does not belong to the ward. It belongs to the Lord. It was dedicated to Him a few years ago, and it is His house."

"Yes, mother, that is right," said Harry. "It is the Lord's house."

"Now, Harry," said his mother, "supposing you were to receive an invitation from the President of the United States to come and dine with him in the White House, what would you do?"

"I would wash myself well, comb my hair, polish my shoes, and put on my best clothes. O, yes, and clean my finger nails."

"That is the way you would go to the White House, to

meet the President of the United States. Well, Harry, you are going to a greater house than the White House, and you are going into the presence of One who is far greater than the President. You are going to the Lord's House, and into the presence of the Lord."

Harry went back to the mirror, combed his hair properly, then he went to the wash room and cleaned his hands and his finger nails thoroughly. This done he came back to his mother, and putting his arms around her neck he gave her a loving kiss and said, "I feel now, that I can go into the presence of the Lord."

*Questions:* What commended the little girl to the lady? In what other respects was the girl clean? (In her habits.) What lesson did Harry learn from his mother? Why should we be clean in body and spirit when we go to Church?

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 14—OBEDIENCE.

*Song:* First verse of "Jesus Bids Us Shine" (Primary Song Book, No. 12), led by a member of the class.

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

Let me tell you about something I saw a short time ago. A little girl was playing on the lawn in front of her home. Her mother had worked hard all day. The mother was going to prepare supper for the family. She called her little girl and requested her to tend the baby while she prepared supper. What do you think the little girl did? (She began to cry.) What do you think of the little girl? How did her mother feel? How did the little girl feel? Was the Lord pleased with the little girl? Why do you think so? What should the little girl have done? How would the girl and her mother have felt then? Whom would the little girl have pleased besides her mother? Have you ever heard the story of Miriam, the little girl who, through her obedience to her parents, helped to get the children of Israel out

of Egypt? I will tell you the story. (Tell, in your own language the following:)

MIRIAM, THE LITTLE HEBREW GIRL, WHO HELPED TO GET HER PEOPLE OUT OF BONDAGE.

What I am going to tell you happened many, many years ago, in the land of Egypt. The Lord's people, the children of Israel, were in Egypt at this time. They were in bondage to the Egyptians. The king of Egypt was a very wicked man. His name was Pharaoh. He did not like the Lord's people, the children of Israel. He put men over them who made them work very hard, and who treated them cruelly.

Now, the children of Israel wanted to leave the land of Egypt. They wanted to go to their own land, the land of Canaan, and serve the Lord there. But King Pharaoh would not let them go. He wanted to keep them in Egypt, to be his servants.

The children of Israel prayed often to the Lord. They told the Lord about the cruel way in which they were being treated by the Egyptians. They pleaded with Him to deliver them out of the hands of their enemies? And the Lord heard and answered their prayers, as you will hear soon.

Then something terrible happened. King Pharaoh made a law that all baby boys born among the children of Israel should be drowned in the river Nile. Can you imagine how the children of Israel felt when they heard of the wicked law King Pharaoh had made? Just think how you would feel if a wicked man were to have your little baby brothers put to death. The children of Israel cried unto the Lord and told Him about the terrible thing King Pharaoh had decided to do. And the Lord heard their cries and He began to prepare a way for their deliverance.

At this time a baby boy was born in an Israelitish family. He was a beautiful child, and his parents loved him. They felt that it would almost kill them if their baby were thrown into the river. How could they save their child so that he would not be found by the wicked men who had been appointed by the king to carry out His law?

For three months they kept the baby hid, so the king and his servants did not know that the child had been born. Then the father and mother saw that they could not hide their little one any longer. They prayed to the Lord to help them. Then the father said, "Mother, I tell you what we will do: we will get rushes and make a basket with them. We will take the basket down to the river, put the baby in the basket and leave him there. When the king's daughter comes down to the river to bathe she will find the baby. Perhaps she will take the child home with her to the castle and ask her father, the king, to let her keep him. And thus our baby's life will be saved."

"That is a good idea, father," said the mother. "We will do as you say." And little Miriam, the baby's sister, who was standing by, clapped her hands with delight. Then she put her arms around her father's neck and kissed him. "I am so glad, father," she said, "that you have thought of a way by which we can save the baby."

So the father made a basket of rushes. Then the mother took the babe, the father carried the basket, and, with little Miriam walking by their side, they went down to the river. When they came to the place where they had decided to leave the baby, the mother placed the babe in the basket and covered him with a nice, soft quilt. Then she stooped down and kissed him and said, "May the Lord watch over you, and take care of you, my darling." Miriam and her father kissed the babe also. Then the father turned to his little girl and said, "Now, Miriam, there is a work for you to do. We are going to leave you to watch the baby. You will go over there and hide in the bushes. You must not leave the spot till you have filled your mission, and you must keep your eyes on the babe all the time. After a while the king's daughter will come to the river to bathe. Then she will find the babe. At that time you will come out of your hiding place and ask the daughter of King Pharaoh if she would like you to get her a nurse for the baby. If she says, 'Yes,' you can come for mother. Now, be a good girl, and do just as I have told you."

Little Miriam kissed her father and mother, and said she would do just as she had been told. Then the father

and mother returned home and Miriam went and hid in the bushes.

The little girl performed her part well. Her eyes did not wander once from the basket in which her baby brother lay. She had been in the bushes some time when suddenly she heard voices. Her heart beat fast. The king's daughter and her maids were coming. Pharaoh's daughter and her servants came into view. Miriam saw them through the bushes, but they did not see the little girl. Then the king's daughter caught sight of the basket. "What is that?" she asked her maids. They did not know. "Go and get the basket and bring it to me," said the daughter of Pharaoh to one of her maids. The maid brought the basket, and, to the astonishment of all, they found a baby boy in it. The babe was crying, and the cries of the little, innocent touched the heart of the king's daughter. Then little Miriam came from her hiding place and asked the daughter of King Pharaoh if she would like her to go and get a nurse for the baby. The king's daughter told her to do so.

Miriam hastened to her home and brought her mother. The king's daughter said to Miriam's mother, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages."

There was great rejoicing in the home when the mother, Miriam and the babe returned. The father took his little daughter in his arms, kissed her and said, "Miriam, you are a good, obedient girl, and we love you. The Lord will bless you for the good work you have gone today."

The baby grew, and in time he was taken to the king's palace. Pharaoh's daughter claimed him as her son. She called him Moses, because he was taken out of the water. When Moses became a man he was chosen by the Lord to deliver the children of Israel from the cruel bondage of the Egyptians. And, as you have seen, the little girl Miriam helped in this great work. The Lord blessed Miriam, and she became a great woman in Israel.

*Questions:* How did King Pharaoh treat the children of Israel? What terrible law did he make? How was the baby Moses saved? How did little Miriam help to deliver the children of Israel?

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell of ways in which they can help others.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song, led by one of the pupils.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 15—OBEDIENCE.

In this lesson we aim to impress the children with the fact that by keeping His commandments they will win the favor and blessings of the Lord.

*Song:* First and second verses of "Jesus, Unto Thee I Pray." (Primary Song Book, No. 14.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

"Help us, Lord, Thy will to do;  
Make us loving, kind and true."

How do you know that your parents love you? How can you show your parents that you love them? What do you think of a child that doesn't obey his parents? How do parents feel when their children obey them? How do children feel when they obey their parents? Who loves you besides your parents? How do you know that the Lord loves you? How can you show the Lord that you love Him?

Tell, in your own language, the following story:

### THE MIRACULOUS DRAUGHT OF FISHES.

After Jesus had been baptized in the river Jordan, and had received the Holy Spirit from Heaven, He went forth among the people and began to preach the Gospel to them. The first thing He taught them was to believe in God, the Eternal Father. He told them that in the beginning God created man in His own likeness and image. One day certain of His disciples said to Him: "Lord, show us the Father." Jesus said to them: "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." Jesus meant by this that He was just like His Father in Heaven. Now, we know what Jesus was like,

He was just like a man, but He was the best Man that ever lived on earth. And we also know what God is like—He is like His Son Jesus Christ.

After Jesus had taught the people to believe in God, the Eternal Father, He taught them that they should repent of all their sins. They should feel sorry for all the things they had done that were wrong, and do them no more. And they should also pray to their Heavenly Father to forgive them. He taught them that the Heavenly Father is displeased with those who commit sin, and unless they repent they will not be permitted to dwell with God in heaven.

Then Jesus told the people they would have to be baptized in water, for the remission of their sins—that is, that all their sins might be washed away. When they had done these things, the Father in Heaven would be pleased with them; He would forgive their sins, and would give them His Holy Spirit, to lead and guide them day by day.

Now, there were many cities and towns and villages and also many people, and Jesus needed men to assist Him in His missionary work. So, as He went through the country, He selected certain men, and called them to be His disciples. A number of those He called were fishermen—that is, they made their living by catching fish and selling them. Simon Peter, James, John and Andrew were the names of some of Jesus' disciples. They were good, true, faithful men. They took the Gospel to many people and wrought mighty works among them.

I am going to tell you now about a wonderful thing that happened one morning. The evening before, Simon Peter, James and John and others went to the lake of Gennesaret. They untied their boats, got into them, rowed out into the lake and let down their fishing nets. It was a beautiful moonlight night, and the lake was calm and peaceful. The fishermen stayed out on the lake all the long night. They talked about many things, especially about Jesus, the Great Teacher, who had come from God to teach the people how to live so that they might enjoy the blessings of Heaven.

All night long the fishermen toiled<sup>1</sup>, but their labors were in vain. They did not catch any fish, and when the morning came they returned to the shore with empty boats. They

took their nets out of the boats and began to wash the nets. While they were doing so, Jesus and a number of people came down to the shore. The people were anxious to hear Jesus, for He taught such good things. Jesus got into the boat owned by Simon Peter, and told Simon to row the boat out a short distance from shore. Simon did as the Lord commanded him. Jesus sat down in the boat and taught the people on the shore. The people felt very happy as they listened to the glorious truths that came from the lips of Jesus.

When the meeting was ended, Jesus turned to Simon Peter and said, Simon, row the boat out into deep water, and let down your net for a draught of fishes." Now, Simon was very much surprised when he heard this, because, as you have heard, he and his companions had worked all the night and had not caught a fish of any kind. And he told the Lord so. He said, "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing." But Simon had great faith in Jesus. He knew that Christ knew more than any man, and that He had greater power than man possessed. So he said to Jesus, "I will obey you; I will take the boat out into deep water and let down the net." He did so, and what do you think happened? (Let the children tell.) Yes, when Simon drew the net up there were so many fish in it that the net broke. Simon called to James and John, and to those who were with them, to come to his assistance. James and John and the other men got into their boat and rowed quickly to the place where Simon was. And they filled both the boats with fish and brought them to shore.

How glad they all were that they had met Jesus that morning, and they were also glad that Simon had done as the Lord had commanded him. Willing obedience always brings the blessings of heaven.

*Questions:* How does Jesus resemble His Father? How is He like us? What do you admire in Simon? What would have been the result if Simon had not obeyed the Lord? Which son would a father like best, an obedient or a disobedient one? Which kind of people does the Lord like best? Which are happiest?

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell of ways in which they can show obedience to God.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 16—HONESTY.

*Song:* First verse of "Jesus, Unto Thee I Pray" (Primary Song Book, No. 14.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "We believe in being honest."

Our memory gem today is taken from one of the Articles of our Faith. I am sure all boys and girls in this class want to be true to the faith of their fathers and mothers. Well, in order for us to be true to our religion we must be honest, for one of the principles of our religion is Honesty. When a young man is needed in a bank, or a store, or an office, one of the first things the employer wants to know is, is he honest? Can he be trusted?

A short time ago two young men lost splendid positions because they were dishonest. I heard of a boy at school who borrowed pencils from boys and girls and did not return them. What do you think of such a boy? And I know a little girl who borrowed pencils from her father and who never thought of returning them. And her father could not find a pencil when he wanted one. This annoyed the little girl's father, and finally he refused to lend his daughter a pencil. Now, borrowing but not returning is a very bad habit. If not overcome it leads to dishonesty.

Some people borrow from neighbors and do not return the things they borrow. It is very annoying to live beside such people. A family living in a certain place sold their home and moved to another part of the city. One day a friend called on the family, and in the course of conversation the friend asked, "Do you like this place better than the place you left, and do you like this home better than your former home?"

The lady of the house answered, "No, we do not like the place as well as where we lived before, nor the home as well as our former home, but I am glad we got away

from our neighbors. For two years they borrowed from us several times a day, and they seldom returned anything they borrowed. We had either to move or have trouble with our neighbors, so we moved."

And there are people who borrow money and who do not pay it at the appointed time. And some do not pay at all. Now, this is dishonest, and people who are dishonest are not respected by honest people, and are not trusted. And, besides, the Lord is displeased with people who are dishonest. He is so displeased with such people that He has said that if they do not repent, and become honest, they will not be permitted to enter into the kingdom of heaven. God and the holy angels would not associate with dishonest people.

But sometimes good, honest people, for some reason, cannot pay at the appointed time. Well, the Lord gave a revelation to the Prophet Joseph Smith, in which He told such people what they should do. The Lord said they should go to the people from whom they had borrowed the money, tell them the reason why they were unable to pay, and ask for longer time. This would show that they are honest, and that they have a desire to pay their debts, and thus their good name would be preserved. There is a story in the Bible from which we can learn a good lesson. It is the story of

#### THE AX THAT FLOATED.

You all know what an ax is. What is an ax used for? An ax is heavy, isn't it. Could you make an ax float on water? Why could you not do so? Well, many years ago there was a man—he was a prophet of God—who made an ax float. Tell story II Kings 6:1-8.

*Questions:* Why did the man lend his neighbor his ax? What promise did the man who borrowed the ax make? What happened when the man was cutting down a tree? How did the man feel then? Why did he feel sorrowful? How was the ax recovered? What do you think of the man who borrowed the ax?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 17—VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE.

*Song:* First verse of "Improve the Shining Moments" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 53), led by one of the pupils.

*Prayer* in concert, led by a member of the class.

*Memory Gem:* "Seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom."

One day when Jesus was talking to His disciples, He said to them, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Have children repeat this in concert two or three times.) I think Jesus meant by this that the disciples should try to be as good on earth, as their Heavenly Father is in heaven. The Lord does not require as much from a Deacon as He does from a Bishop, but He expects a Deacon to perform as faithfully the duties of a Deacon as He expects a Bishop to perform the duties pertaining to his office. Don't you think so? (Let the children express their opinions.)

Lead the children to tell of some of the wonderful things which God has done—the creating of the heavens and the earth, and of all things that are in the earth, also man, in His own likeness and image.

There are many great men in the world today, and they, because of their great wisdom and knowledge and power, are able to do wonderful things. But they will have to gain a great deal more knowledge before they become like God.

I will tell you how we can become like God—by gaining wisdom and knowledge and by becoming wiser and better day by day. Let me give you an illustration:

One day a man came out of his home and found his little son and another boy "playing telephone." Each boy had an empty tin can in his hand, with a piece of paper tied round one end of the cans. There was a string through the center of the paper reaching from one can to the other, and the boys were talking to each other as if they were

talking through a telephone. As the father looked at his son he said to himself, "What a great gulf there is between the boy and Edison. But," said he, "there was a time when Edison did not know any more about electricity than my boy knows. The gulf between my boy and Edison is the gulf of years and knowledge. By reading, studying, working my boy may become as great a man as Edison."

Another illustration: A small boy got some mud and water and made a little pond. Then he got pieces of stick and began to sail them on the pond as if they were ships on the ocean. Now, think of the great difference there was between this boy and the man who built the Panama Canal. Yet there was a time when the builder of the Panama Canal knew no more than the boy who was floating the sticks on the little pond. How could the boy become like the man who built the great canal? By doing what the man did—reading, studying, working.

And in much the same way man can become like God. By faith and prayer and study and work we can become like our Father in Heaven. Sometimes we sing a little song, entitled, "Jesus Once Was a Little Child." (Have the children repeat the following in concert):

"Jesus once was a little child,  
A little child like me,  
And He was pure and meek and mild,  
As a little child should be.  
So, little children, let you and I  
Try to be like Him, try, try, try."

Show the children how Jesus grew in wisdom and knowledge until He became like His Father in Heaven. And as God helped Jesus to become like Him, so He will help us to become like Him, for He is our Father as well as the Father of Jesus.

*Questions:* What did Jesus say to His disciples? What was the difference between the boys who were "playing telephone" and Mr. Edison? How did Jesus become like His Father in Heaven? How may we become like God? To whom should we appeal for help? Why appeal to God?

*Testimonies:* Along the lines of the lesson.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 18—VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE.

*Song:* First verse of "Jesus Bids Us Shine" (Primary Song Book, No. 12.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God."

Why do you go to school? What do you learn at school? And this knowledge you are getting at school will be of great help to you during your life. Why do you go to Sunday School and Primary and Religion Class? Tell me some of the things you have learned in these organizations. This knowledge will also be of great benefit to you. Without this knowledge you could not be saved in the kingdom of God. The Prophet Joseph Smith said, "No man can be saved in ignorance." (Have children repeat this in concert.)

We are told in the Bible that if we lack wisdom we should ask our Heavenly Father to give us wisdom, so that we may know what to do. Our Father in Heaven has more wisdom and knowledge than all the men in the world. I am going to tell you about a little boy who, through prayer, received great knowledge from the Lord. And the knowledge which this boy obtained has gone to many lands, and thousands of people have been greatly blessed by it. The little boy of whom I speak was Joseph Smith, who became a great Prophet, and who was the first President of our Church.

### THE KNOWLEDGE WHICH JOSEPH SMITH OBTAINED FROM THE LORD IN ANSWER TO PRAYER.

In the year 1820 Joseph was living with his parents in the town of Manchester, State of New York. He was then about 14 years of age. At that time the people, in that part of the country, were very much excited over religion. Al-

most every evening, meetings were held in the churches. Joseph's mother and two of his brothers and a sister joined the Presbyterian Church. But Joseph did not join any of the churches. The reason he did not do so was because they all taught different doctrines, and he did not know which one taught the true Gospel, or which was the true Church. One evening Joseph took down the Bible and began to read its sacred pages. He was reading in the Book of James when his eyes rested on these words, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God." (Have children repeat this in concert two or three times.) These words caused Joseph to stop and think. They made a great impression on the boy's mind. They seemed to say to him: "You wish to know which of the churches is the true Church. Well, if you will ask God He will tell you."

Joseph decided to act on the advice of the Apostle James, the man who wrote this scripture. But he did not tell any member of the family what was in his heart. He closed the Bible, put it back in its place, and then went to bed, little dreaming that the next day he would have news which, in course of time, would startle the whole world.

He awoke early the next morning, rose and dressed himself. The other members of the family were fast asleep, so slipping quietly out of the house, Joseph made his way to a small grove not far from his father's home. Selecting a suitable spot in the grove, he knelt down and began to call upon God in earnest prayer.

As soon as Joseph had finished his prayer he looked up, and, to his great astonishment, he saw an exceeding bright light coming down out of heaven. When the light had reached the top of the trees Joseph beheld in the midst of it two heavenly Beings. They were in the form of men, but they were not men, neither were they angels: they were God the Eternal Father and His Son Jesus Christ. Pointing to the Son, the Father said, "Joseph, this is my beloved Son, hear Him."

As soon as Joseph was able to speak he asked the Lord which of the churches was the true Church. He was surprised when the Lord told him that all the churches were wrong; they had been established by men and not by God,

and none of them taught the true Gospel. The Lord told Joseph not to join any of them. The Lord also told Joseph that in due time the true Church would be re-established on earth, and that if he were true and faithful he would be chosen to stand at the head of it.

Filled with wonder and surprise Joseph arose and returned to his home. In the course of time the true Church of Christ was established again on earth, and Joseph was chosen by the Lord to be its first president.

*Questions:* What did Joseph read in the Bible? What did he decide to do after reading this scripture? What happened while Joseph was praying in the grove? What did Joseph learn that morning? (First, that the true Church of Christ was not on earth; second, that in the course of time the true Church would be re-established on earth; third, that man is created in the image of God. None of these things were known by the world at that time.)

*Testimonies:* Show the children the great blessing this knowledge has been to thousands of people.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 19—COURAGE.

*Song:* First verse of "Dare to do Right" (Primary Song Book, No. 74).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

There is one thing, among many others, that every boy and girl needs, that every boy and girl should have, and that is—Courage. Now, there are different kinds of courage. I will try to explain some of them. Some time ago, in one of the settlements of Utah, a little boy was sitting in a wagon. There were two horses hitched to the wagon. The boy's father was in a store buying groceries and other things. Something frightened the horses and they ran away. Several men tried to stop them, but they were unable to do so.

The little boy saw the danger he was in and he began to cry. What, do you think, he did? No, he didn't crawl down into the bottom of the wagon, neither did he jump out

of the wagon. He grasped the lines and began to pull with all his might. He hollered "Whoa!" as loudly as he could, but the horses would not stop. Still the little fellow held on to the lines, keeping the horses, as well as he could, in the middle of the road. Finally the horses got tired. They stopped running and began to walk. Then the boy turned them and drove them back to the store. And as he was coming back, still crying, the people cheered him and shouted, "Brave boy! Brave little fellow!"

Now, this boy reminds me of another boy, named David. There are many beautiful stories told about David in the Holy Bible. David had good parents. They taught him to love and serve the Lord, and he did. David had great faith in the Lord, and he also possessed great courage.

Have any of you ever seen a lion? Where was the lion? Why was he shut up in a cage? You wouldn't have liked to have been put in the cage with the lion. Why? Well, one day when David was out tending his father's sheep he saw a lion coming down the side of the mountain. The lion was thinking of the splendid meal he would have off one of the sheep. And David was thinking, too. What do you think were David's thoughts? Yes, he was thinking of what he should do. He had very little time to decide. The lion was coming nearer and nearer.

Then David summoned all his courage and decided to fight the lion. But before doing so he asked someone to help him. Who? Yes, he asked his Heavenly Father. And David knew that his Heavenly Father would help him. So David arose and went towards the lion. What, do you think, the lion did when he saw David coming towards him? No, he didn't turn and run away. He stopped and looked at David out of his big, glaring, angry eyes. He was not afraid of David. He thought he could kill the boy almost as easily as he could kill a sheep.

As David drew near, the lion began to roar. Then he opened his mouth and uttered such a terrible roar that the sheep were frightened and began to run. But David was not frightened. He felt brave and strong because of the power of the Lord which was in him. Suddenly the lion sprang at David, and then a terrible battle began. David

fought the beast with all his might and finally succeeded in killing him. Then, kneeling down beside the dead lion, he thanked the Lord for giving him courage and power to meet and slay the king of beasts.

And some time after this David killed a bear that was about to attack his father's sheep. What great faith and courage David must have possessed to enable him to meet and slay these wild, ferocious beasts!

But there is far greater courage than this. It is the courage that was exhibited by Jesus—the courage to stand up for the truth—yes, to die for the truth. Among the great truths which Jesus taught the people there was one which made them very angry, made them seek His life. It was this—that He was the Son of God. They could not bear to hear this. For this they stoned him, they spat upon Him, they slapped Him in the face with their hands, but they could not get Him to deny the truth.

Finally they told Him that if He would not recall what He had said—that if He would not declare that He was not the Christ, the Son of God—they would put Him to death. But Jesus remained firm and true. He would not deny the truth; He would not say that He was not the Son of God. And rather than deny the truth, He suffered Himself to be put to death by being crucified upon a cross. No man can show greater courage, nor greater love for the truth, than by laying down his life for it.

*Questions:* What do you admire in David? What was one of the great truths Jesus taught? How did the people feel when they heard this? How did they treat Jesus? But Jesus could have stopped all this persecution. How? How did Jesus show great courage, and also His great love of truth?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 20—COURAGE.

*Song:* First verse of "Dare to do Right" (Primary Song Book, No. 74).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

Last week you heard of a boy named David who exhibited great courage. How? Why was David not afraid to meet the lion and the bear? (He felt confident the Lord would help him.) Why was David confident the Lord would help him? (Because he loved the Lord and kept His commandments.) And you also heard about One who exhibited greater courage than David. Who was He? How did Jesus show great courage.

I am going to tell you now about a boy, a big boy, who met with a little accident a short time ago. His parents felt ashamed of him, and his schoolmates felt ashamed of him, and called him "The Baby."

One afternoon this boy, in closing a door, happened to pinch one of his fingers. He uttered a scream that startled the whole household. Finally he quieted down and let his mother examine his hand. One of his fingers was slightly bruised. Well, the boy had to have his finger bandaged, and he couldn't go to school for over a week. He said his finger hurt so, and, besides, he couldn't write, nor figure, nor draw. And he couldn't chop wood nor bring in coal. Is it any wonder his school chums called him "The Baby"? What do you think of such a boy?

Now, listen to the story of another boy who lived in this country some years ago, and who was even more brave and courageous than David. This boy was named Joseph. I believe you can guess his other name. We often speak of him and sing about him. Yes, the boy I refer to was Joseph Smith. I suppose you feel like asking me, "How did Joseph Smith show great courage?" I will tell you.

One time, when Joseph was a mere boy, he was terribly afflicted with a diseased bone in his leg. The pain was so intense that at times he could scarcely endure it. A surgeon was called in. He examined Joseph's leg, then said the boy would have to undergo an operation. The boy was operated on twice. The surgeon made an incision in his leg eight inches long and reaching to the bone. But these operations did not bring the boy relief. The advice of a number of surgeons was sought. The surgeons met and examined Jo-

seph's leg. Then they talked together. They decided the boy's leg would have to be amputated—that is, cut off.

When the surgeons came to perform the operation, Joseph's mother said, "I will not allow you to amputate my boy's leg until you have made another effort to save it." The surgeons said they would open Joseph's leg again, and, if possible, take out the diseased pieces of bone.

When they were ready to perform the operation they got large pieces of strong cord to tie Joseph down on the bed. But Joseph would not let them tie him down. Then they tried to get the boy to drink either wine or brandy, to help him bear the pain. But Joseph said, "I do not want brandy or wine. I just want my father to sit on the bed and hold me in his arms." Then he added: "Mother, you please go out of the room. I know you cannot bear to see me suffer."

Joseph's mother left the room. Then Joseph's father sat down on the bed and held the boy in his arms while the surgeons opened his leg and took out three pieces of diseased bone. His suffering was terrible, but he bore up under it like the brave little hero he was. The Lord blessed him and he got well. The Lord needed just such a brave, courageous man as Joseph Smith was to stand at the head of His great latter-day work.

Let me tell you another way in which Joseph exhibited great courage. When Joseph told people that, in answer to prayer, he had seen a vision, in which he had beheld the Father and the Son, they began to persecute him and to say all manner of evil things against him. They tried in many ways to get Joseph to withdraw what he had said, but he remained firm; he would not take back a single word.

And when Joseph declared that he had been visited by the angel Moroni and had received from him the plates of the Book of Mormon, people treated him shamefully. They cast him into prison, they tarred and feathered him, they tried to poison him. And he suffered all these things, and many more, because he would not deny the truth. Finally he was arrested by wicked men, who told him that if he would not declare that what he had told the people was false they would put him to death. But Joseph knew that he

had told them the truth, and he knew that God knew it, and he said he would suffer death rather than deny that which he had testified he had seen and heard. And he and his brother Hyrum did suffer death for the truth's sake. They were murdered in cold blood in Carthage jail.

*Questions:* When Joseph Smith was a boy how was he afflicted? How did he show his courage? (He would not submit to being tied down, neither would he drink wine nor brandy.) How did he show consideration for his mother? When Joseph told the people that he had seen the Father and the Son, also the Angel Moroni, how was he treated? Why could the wicked people not get him to deny his testimony? How did Joseph show great courage, and also his love for truth?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 21—LOYALTY.

*Song:* First verse of "Because He Loves Me So" (Primary Song Book, No. 3).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children to be true to the faith of their fathers. If possible, have a picture of Daniel in the lions' den, and let the children see it. Lead up to the lesson with a few questions like the following: How many of you little boys and girls have been to a circus? Did you see the lions? Were they walking around with the horses? Why were they in cages? I am going to tell you a story about the man and the lions you see in this picture. The place the lions are in is called a den.

### DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN.

Many, many years ago there lived in Jerusalem a brave little boy named Daniel. His parents loved him dearly. His mother often told him stories from the Bible. She told him

about God, his Heavenly Father, and taught him to pray to Him. Every morning, noon and night Daniel prayed to his Father in heaven. His mother also told him what to eat, to make his body strong and healthy.

One day, when Daniel was a big boy, a king from another country came to Jerusalem and took many of the people back to his land to live. Daniel was one of them, and because Daniel was so strong and healthy he was taken, with a number of other boys, to the king's palace to live. Daniel was a long way from his father and mother, but he was brave and true. He prayed three times a day to his Heavenly Father, and his Heavenly Father helped him, so that when he grew to be a man he was strong and wise.

The king needed the wisest man to help him rule the people, so he chose Daniel. Daniel was wiser than any other man the king had, for the Lord had blessed him with great strength and wisdom. The king was well pleased with Daniel's work.

There were some wicked people in that land, and they knew that the king loved Daniel more than any of the rest of his servants, because he did everything he had to do so well. They wondered what they could do to get rid of Daniel. At last one man said, "He prays to his God three times each day." Then the wicked people were glad, because they knew what they could do. They went to the king and said, "King, we want you to make a law that if any one in this land asks for anything from any god or man, except you, O king, he will be put in the lions' den. The king thought that would be a good law, so he made such a law, and signed his name to it. Then not even the king could change it.

The wicked people took the paper to Daniel. He read it. Then he knew that if he prayed to his Heavenly Father he would be put in the lions' den. But he was not afraid. He knew that it was right to pray; his mother had taught him to pray, and he knew that his Heavenly Father would help him. So he opened his windows and knelt down and prayed just as he had done before. The next day he did the same thing. The wicked people were watching, and they went to the king and told him that Daniel was disobeying the law

he had made. They said they had seen and heard him pray to his God. Then the king was very sorry that he had made the law, because he loved Daniel and wanted to save him, but he could not change the law.

The king sent for Daniel. Daniel knew what the king wanted, but he was brave, for he knew that he had done right. The king led Daniel down to the lions' den, and opened the big door, and Daniel walked right in where all the lions were. (Show picture.) Then the king shut the door and locked it.

The king went home, but he could not eat any supper; he could not listen to the music, neither could he sleep. All night he prayed to God to watch over Daniel so that the lions might not harm him.

Early the next morning the king hurried down to the lions' den. He called to Daniel and asked him if his God had watched over him. Daniel answered, "Yes, He sent His angel, and the angel shut the mouths of the lions so that they could not harm me." The king was very happy. He sent for some of his servants and told them to open the door. They did so, and Daniel walked out. Then the king made a new law, and commanded that all the people should worship the same God that Daniel worshiped. He is the same God that we pray to, our Father in heaven.

*Questions:* What do you admire in Daniel? What did his mother teach him? Why was he not afraid to go into the lions' den? Why was the Lord so good to Daniel?

*Testimonies:* Lead some of the pupils to tell how they can show their loyalty to the Church—by attending meetings, by paying their annual donations to the Sunday School and Primary, by praying for the missionaries, etc.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 22—GRATITUDE.

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children to be grateful to the Lord and to their parents for the blessings they receive from them.

*Song:* First verse of "I Think when I Read that Sweet Story of Old" (Primary Song Book, No. 11).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

I am very glad to see you, children, in Religion Class today. And there are others who are also glad that you are here. Who are they? (Their parents, the Bishopric, and the Lord.) The Lord inspired His servants to organize the Religion Classes, and He is pleased when the children attend the classes. By coming to the classes you show the Lord that you are grateful for the blessing which He has given you. When people show the Lord that they are grateful for His blessings, and that they appreciate them, He gives them other blessings.

A short time ago a family in Salt Lake City sat down to a splendid dinner that the dear wife and mother had spent a long time in preparing. The large table was just loaded with food. There were soup, meat and potatoes, several kinds of vegetables, biscuits and butter, milk and fruit, pie, ice-cream and cake, and other good things.

And you know what was done before the family began to eat? Yes, thanks was given to the Lord for the meal and His blessing asked upon it. All bowed their heads, and one of the children prayed, "Our Father which art in heaven, we thank Thee for this food. Bless it, that it may nourish and strengthen our bodies. We ask this blessing in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen."

How happy the dear mother felt as she watched her husband and children feast on the food she had so well prepared. The father looked at the children and said, "Children, I think you have one of the best mothers in the world. We have thanked our Heavenly Father for this good food, and I think we ought to thank mother for the splendid manner in which she has prepared and served it."

"I think so, too," said little Mary. Then the father and children looked at the mother and said, "Mother, dear, we thank you." And the mother nodded her head and smiled, and tears glistened in her eyes. But that was not all. When dinner was over and mother was starting to clear the table,

her two little daughters went over to her, put their arms around her neck, kissed her and said: "Mother, you go into the parlor with father and sit down and rest. We will clear the table and wash the dishes."

How do you think the mother felt? How did the children feel? How did the Lord feel when He saw the kindness and gratitude of these children?

Now, this reminds me of something that happened during the time Jesus was on earth. One day Jesus stopped at a little village to rest. Soon a large crowd of people gathered around Him. They wanted to hear Him explain some of the glorious truths of the Gospel, for no man ever taught as Jesus taught. There were many mothers there who loved Jesus, and they brought their little children that He might lay His hands upon their heads and bless them. When the disciples of Jesus saw the mothers and children, they were displeased. They knew that Jesus was tired, and they thought the mothers ought not to trouble Him. So they told the mothers to take the children home and not to trouble the Master. "Jesus is too tired to bless the children now," they said.

Yes, Jesus was tired, but when He heard what the disciples said He was displeased. Jesus loved little children. They were His little brothers and sisters, the children of His Father in Heaven. So He turned to His disciples and said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Then Jesus took the children in His arms, one by one, and blessed them. And the mothers were grateful to the Lord for blessing their children, and they and their little ones returned to their homes rejoicing.

And now I will tell you one of the ways in which these mothers and children showed their gratitude to the Lord for His blessing. One day when Jesus was coming to Jerusalem the mothers whose children He had blessed, and many others, heard of His coming and went out to meet Him. They spread their garments in the way in which Jesus was going; they also cut down branches from the trees and strewed them in the way. And when Jesus drew near the city the people began to rejoice and praise God, saying, "Blessed be the

King that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."

*Questions:* How did the father and the children feel when they sat down to the splendid dinner? How did they show their gratitude? (They thanked the Lord, also the dear mother who had prepared the food.) And how did the children show their gratitude later? What did the disciples say when the mothers brought their children to Jesus? What did Jesus say? How did the mothers show their gratitude to Jesus?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 23—SELF-CONTROL.

*Song:* First and second verses of "In Our Lovely Deseret" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 79).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

"Ever remember in thy youth,  
That he who firmly strives  
To conquer and to rule himself  
Is noble, brave and wise."

Has any of you got a dog? Is he cross or kind? Do you like a dog that is cross? Why not? A cross dog often gets into trouble. How? Would you like to hear a story of a dog? This dog learned a good lesson from his master, and you can learn a good lesson from the dog. The lesson the dog learned is the lesson of self-control. The little dog I am telling you about was very fond of loaf sugar. You know what loaf sugar is. Yes, it is sugar that is cut up into little blocks. The man who owned the dog often gave him a piece of sugar. At first the dog would jump up and snatch the sugar out of his master's hand. But the man did not want the dog to do this—he wanted the dog to wait till he would give him the sugar. So he began to teach the dog the lesson of self-control. And the dog learned the lesson so well that the man could place a piece of sugar on a chair

and the dog would not touch it until the master told him he might take it. Then he would seize it quickly.

Now, how did the dog learn the lesson of self-control? He learned it by taking his eyes off the sugar and by keeping them on his master. He would not look at the sugar at all till his master bade him take it.

Now, we have a Master, too, a good, kind, loving Master. Do you know who He is? Yes, Jesus is our Lord and Master. And He wants us to learn the lesson of self-control. Now, there are certain things that Jesus has told us we should not use. What are they? Tea, coffee, tobacco and strong drink. But when boys grow up and become young men they are often tempted to smoke and to drink beer. And some boys give way to the temptations and others do not.

I heard of a boy a short time ago who had learned well the lesson of self-control. He had learned the lesson so well that he could not be tempted to drink a glass of beer. He was captain of a baseball team in Utah. He was a Sunday School and a Religion Class boy, and he had learned that the Lord has said that tobacco and strong drink are not good for the body. And he remembered this. Once his team won a splendid game of baseball. A large number of boys gathered around the captain. They hoisted him on their shoulders and carried him among the people. Then some of them brought a bottle of beer and they tried ever so hard to get the captain to take just a little drink. But they could not get him to touch it. The reason the boy was able to resist the temptation was because he did not think of the beer. He thought of the commandment which Jesus had given.

No one else ever lived who had such self-control as Jesus. One time when Jesus was going through Samaria the people were so unkind to Him that they would not give Him either food or drink. On seeing this, the disciples of Jesus became so angry that they wanted the Lord to give them power to call fire down out of heaven and destroy the people. But Jesus said to the disciples, "You are not possessed of a good spirit. You want to destroy men's lives. I came to save men's lives."

And wicked people said all manner of evil things about

Jesus. They spat on Him; they slapped Him in the face with their hands; they put a purple robe on Him and placed a crown of thorns on His head and went before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And finally they took Him to a hill called Calvary, and there they crucified Him on a cross between two thieves. Jesus suffered all these things and never once got angry. And just before He died He prayed for the people who had so cruelly treated Him. He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Jesus wants us to be like Him. He wants us to learn the lesson of self-control. He wants us to return good for evil. He wants us to be masters of ourselves. And He will help us if we will pray to Him and ask Him to assist us. The Lord has helped thousands of people to overcome evil and to do good.

*Questions:* How did the dog learn the lesson of self-control? What things has the Lord forbidden us to use? What helped the boy to resist the temptation to drink beer? What was the difference between Jesus and His disciples? How did the people treat Jesus? What lesson may we learn from Jesus?

*Testimonies:* Tell some experience in your life showing how the Lord has helped you.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 24—SELF-CONTROL.

*Song:* First and second verses of "In Our Lovely Deseret" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 79).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

"School thy feelings, there is power  
In the cool, collected mind."

Every day in the year, in all parts of the world, terrible things happen because people have not learned to control

their tempers and their passions. People allow themselves to get angry over trifles and in their anger they do things for which they have to suffer all the rest of their lives.

That was a terrible thing that happened in one of the eastern states some time ago. Did you hear about the boy who, in a fit of anger, killed his father and his mother? You didn't. Well, I must tell you about him. He didn't seem to have any control whatever over his temper. At the least provocation he would become exceeding angry, and often he would get angry without any cause whatever.

One day his father told him to chop some wood for the fire. He did not pay any attention to what his father said. His father told him the second time, but he did not heed his father. Then the father scolded and reproved him for his disobedience. That made the boy very angry. He ran into the house, seized a double-barreled shotgun, came out and killed his father. On hearing the shot, the mother ran to the door. The son turned the gun on his mother and killed her also. And this awful double murder was committed because a boy hadn't learned the lesson of self-control.

And poor dumb animals are often made to suffer because of their owners' lack of self-control. There is a man in a certain town in the west who had a very bad temper. One evening he took the milk pail and went out to the pasture to milk a splendid Jersey cow of which he was the owner. When he had almost finished milking, the cow, who was being greatly troubled by flies biting her, kicked the milk pail and spilled the milk. Now, the cow did not do this purposely. She kicked to get ride of the flies, and not to spill the milk. But her owner flew into a rage. He ran and picked up a heavy stick, and he gave the cow such a terrible beating that she fell to the ground.

One morning, a few days later, when the man went to milk the cow, he saw, to his great sorrow, that she had met with a serious accident. She had stepped in a gopher hole and had broken one of her legs. And the valuable and useful animal had to be killed. The owner of the cow felt very sorry—in fact, he shed tears—when he thought of the cruel way he had treated the poor animal that had for years

furnished his family with milk and butter. From that time on the man seemed to have pretty good control over his temper, but it was too bad that a valuable cow had to die in order to teach him the lesson of self-control.

Boys and girls cannot begin too early to learn this lesson. Often when boys are driving to and from town their horses get scared at passing autos and the animals shy. In many instances this makes boys angry and they begin to beat their animals. How would boys like to be treated that way? Supposing a father were to ask his little son to go to town while a terrible thunder storm was raging; and supposing the boy were to say, "Father, please do not urge me to go to town now, I am afraid of the thunder and the lightning;" and supposing the father were to get angry and say, "I want you to go now, and if you don't go I will give you a whipping," what would you think of such a father? And what do you think of a boy who gets angry with his horses and beats them when they get frightened at an automobile?

In a certain home a short time ago one of the daughters went to a little closet in search of a certain article she wanted. She searched for the article but could not find it. This made her angry, and she slammed the door of the closet so hard that it broke. And the girl's parents let the door remain broken for several days in order to teach their daughter a lesson—the lesson of self-control. Each day the girl looked at the broken door, and each time she looked at it she felt ashamed of her conduct.

*Questions:* What do we mean by self-control? What had the boy who killed his parents failed to learn? (Obedience to parents, and to control his temper.) What do you think of the man who ill-treated his cow? How did he learn to control his temper? How did the parents feel when their daughter broke the door of the closet? How did the girl feel? How does the Lord look upon such conduct?

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* Second verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 25—FAULT-FINDING.

The aim of this lesson is to teach the children to refrain from the evil of fault-finding.

*Song:* First verse of "Nay, Speak No Ill" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 88).

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "Cease to find fault one with another."

I think one of the worst habits a person can form is the habit of fault-finding. What do we mean by fault-finding? (Let the children express their thoughts on this subject). A few days ago two little boys were riding on a street car. One of them—the elder—found fault with his little brother so often that a gentleman had to reprove him. The elder boy would say to his brother, "Don't touch the shade. Don't point to things on the street." Don't do this. Don't do that. Finally a gentleman sitting in the next seat turned and said to the fault-finder, "Let your little brother alone. You have made him so nervous by finding fault with him since he got on the car that he is almost ready to jump out of the window."

The gentleman felt sorry for the little boy who had a brother who was continually finding fault with him. The little fellow was made very unhappy by his brother finding fault with everything he did. And because of his continuous nagging and fault-finding the elder brother may make a fault-finder out of his little brother.

There is a story told about a little boy who entered school for the first time. The teacher was putting the children's names on the roll. When she came to the little fellow she asked, "What is your name?" "Johnny," answered the boy. "What is your other name?" "Johnny Don't." "Johnny Don't." repeated the teacher. "That is a very strange name—Johnny Don't." "That is what my mother calls me," said the boy. The little fellow had heard his mother say to him so often, "Johnny, don't," that he had concluded that was his name.

A man who is a member of our Church said to another member: "I do not like to be in the company of Brother

S—. Every time I get into conversation with him he finds fault with some of the authorities of the Church. And I am sorry to say that once or twice I have partaken of his spirit and have found fault with some of my brethren. I have said things I wish I hadn't said, and of which I have sincerely repented. I felt condemned just as soon as I said them. I prayed to the Lord to forgive me and promised Him that I would never again find fault with and criticise His servants."

I know the reason why the man felt bad—he had broken one of the Lord's commandments—the commandment we have today for a memory gem. Let us repeat it again, "Cease to find fault one with another." The Lord gave this commandment to the Church through the Prophet Joseph Smith. The Prophet Joseph said that a person takes the first step towards apostasy when he begins to find fault with the authorities of the Church. And the Prophet told the truth. Many people have lost their membership in the Church through finding fault with the Lord's servants.

I am going to tell you now how Jesus, in a very kind, polite way, reproved a man for finding fault with Him. Think of a man finding fault with Jesus, the Son of God!

One day a man named Simon, a Pharisee, invited Jesus to come to his home and dine with him. Jesus accepted the kind invitation. As Jesus was sitting in Simon's home a woman came to see Him. Now, this woman had done many things that were wrong—she was a sinner. She knew that Jesus was good and kind and loving and merciful, and she believed that if she were to go to Him He would help her to do better. So she came quietly into the home of Simon. She felt that she was not worthy to stand before Jesus and look into His face, so she stood behind Him. Then she began to cry, and the great, big tears ran down her cheeks. She cried because she was standing beside One who was pure and holy, while she was a great sinner. Then she knelt down and washed the feet of Jesus with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. She kissed the Savior's feet and anointed them with ointment she had brought.

When Simon saw this he was displeased, and he found fault with Jesus. He said to himself, "If this man were a

prophet, he would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him; for she is a sinner."

Now, Jesus knew the thoughts that were in Simon's mind, so He said, "Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee." And Simon said, "Master, say on."

And Jesus said, "There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty: and when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me, therefore, which of them will love him most?"

"Simon answered and said, I suppose that he to whom he forgave most." And Jesus said unto him, "Thou hast rightly judged." Then Jesus turned and pointing to the woman said to Simon: "Simon, seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman, since the time I came in, hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are all forgiven." Then Jesus turned to the woman and said, "Thy sins are forgiven."

*Questions:* How, do you think, Simon felt while Jesus was talking to him? What effect would Jesus' words have upon Simon? What do you think of Jesus' way of reproofing Simon? What commandment did the Lord give the Church concerning fault-finding? What does finding fault with the authorities of the Church lead to?

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 26—FORGIVENESS.

*Song:* First and second verses of "Our Father in Heaven" (Primary Song Book, No. 27.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "If ye forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Sometimes boys and girls do things that are wrong. Then how do their parents feel? And how do children feel when they wound the feelings of their parents? When a boy or girl does wrong what should he or she do?

One morning a boy named George, who lived in the southern part of Utah, was told by his mother to go to the coop and gather the eggs. He collected eight eggs. When he was returning to the house with the eggs one of them fell and broke. Now, the boy did not want his mother to know what had happened, so he decided to tell a falsehood. What do you think of such a decision? What should the boy have done? Well, when George went into the house his mother asked him how many eggs he had found, and he answered—? ("Seven.") Now, that was a falsehood, an' George knew that he had told his mother a falsehood. And someone else knew. Who? How, do you think, George felt after telling his good, kind, loving mother a falsehood? Yes, he felt bad, and he also felt that the Lord was displeased with him, for he had been taught in the Sunday School and Primary Association and Religion Class that it is a sin to tell a lie, and that the Lord is displeased with those who commit sin.

George put a strap round his books, gave his mother a good-bye kiss and started for school. But he was not happy. A little voice kept saying to him: "George, you told your mother a falsehood. Are you going to have that black lie stare you in the face all day? Go back to your mother, confess your sin and ask her forgiveness."

George stopped, turned around and ran back home. Throwing himself into the arms of his mother he burst out crying.

"Why, George dear," said his mother, "what is the matter? Are you sick?"

Between sobs George answered, "No, mother, I am not sick, but I feel bad because I told you a lie this morning. I told you I found seven eggs. That was not the truth. I found eight, but one egg fell and broke. Mother, I want you to forgive me, and I promise you I will never tell you another lie."

The mother pressed the boy to her heart, kissed him

affectionately and dried his tears. Then she said: "My son, I am glad you realize that it is a serious thing to tell a lie; and I am also glad that you have repented, confessed your sin and asked forgiveness. I freely forgive you, my boy."

"Thank you, mother," said George. Then he asked, "Do you think the Lord will forgive me, mother, as you have done?"

"George," said the mother, "I would like to ask you a question: Do you think your mother is more righteous and more forgiving than the Lord?"

George thought for a few seconds, then said, "No, ma'am."

"You have answered right," said his mother. "This is one of the lessons Jesus taught His disciples. He knew they would have to learn this lesson, and learn it well. He knew that people would treat them unkindly, and say all manner of evil against them, and He wanted His disciples to learn to return good for evil, and to forgive those who trespassed against them. So in order to teach them the lesson of Forgiveness he told them a story. He said: 'Once there was a king who had a number of servants who owed him money. One of them owed his master ten thousand talents. Now, this man was unable to pay his debt, so the king commanded that the man be sold, also his wife and children, and all that he had, and the debt paid. When the man heard this he hastened to the king, and falling down before him worshiped him, saying, 'Lord have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.' Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.'

"Now, this servant who had been forgiven 'went out, and found one of his fellowservants which owed him an hundred pence; and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and besought him saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not; but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.'

"So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry and came and told unto their lord all that

was done. Then his lord, after he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: should not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, 'till he should pay all that was due unto him."

Then said Jesus to His disciples, "So likewise shall my Heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not everyone his brother his trespasses."

"And you know, George," said the boy's mother, "what Jesus said concerning those who were putting Him to death on the cross?"

"Yes, mother," said George, "He prayed for them. He said, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'"

"And if Jesus forgave those who were putting Him to death, don't you think He will forgive you for telling a falsehood?"

George put his arms around his mother's neck, kissed her sweet lips and said, "Mother, you are an angel."

*Questions.*

*Testimonies.*

*Song:* First verse of opening song.

*Prayer in concert.*

## LESSON 27—HELPFULNESS.

*Song:* Teach the class to memorize and sing the following lines:

"Have I done any good in the world today?  
Have I helped any one in need?

Have I cheered up the sad,  
And made some one feel glad?  
If not, I have failed indeed."

(Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 207.)

*Prayer in concert.*

*Memory Gem:*

“Has anyone’s burden been lighter today,  
Because I was willing to share?  
Have the sick and the weary been helped on their way?  
When they needed my help, was I there?”

One day, in a Religion Class, the little boys and girls sang this song. Then the teacher asked, “Do you know anyone who is sick in the ward?” Several members of the class raised their hands. One of the girls said: “Old Sister Clark has been ill for a long time. She has not been out of bed for weeks.” Then the teacher said, “Do you know of any way in which we could help her?” Johnny Brown said, “Last Sunday afternoon, at the close of the meeting, I asked the Bishop for the flowers on the stand. He gave them to me and I took them to Sister Clark. I put them on the table beside her bed. They made her feel glad, and she thanked me.” “And how did you feel, Johnny?” asked the teacher. “I felt very happy, too,” said Johnny.

There is a beautiful story in the Bible, children, about a little girl who was the means of bringing a great blessing to her master, who was a captain in an army. (Tell, in your own language, the following):

## HOW A LITTLE GIRL HELPED HER MASTER.

Many years ago, in the city of Damascus, there lived a little Israelitish girl. Damascus was not her real home. Her real home was in Palestine, where, you know, Jesus was born. One time soldiers went from Damascus to the town in which the little girl lived. There they fought a cruel battle, with long, sharp-pointed spears. And when the battle was ended, and they were going back to their homes in Damascus, they took this little girl with them, to be a servant in the home of the captain of the army. It was a great trial to the little girl to be taken away from her father and mother and her brothers and sisters and playmates. But she was brave. She prayed to the Lord and He blessed and comforted her.

The little girl lived in the home of the captain, waiting

on the captain's wife. The captain's name was Naaman, and he was afflicted with a terrible disease. He was a leper. Do you know what a leper is? He is a man who has leprosy. At first there was a dry, rough spot in the palm of the captain's hand, which he could not wash away. It grew and grew until it covered his whole hand. Then his eyebrows became white and he knew that he had leprosy. Slowly and slowly the disease spread, making his hair and beard white, eating holes in his lips and eyelids, and covering his whole body with scales.

The little Israelitish girl was afraid to go near her master. She knew what a terrible disease leprosy is. There were lepers in the country she had come from, and it was a terrible thing to be a leper. A leper had to live with lepers. He was never allowed to come near a town or city. People looked at him only at a distance. Always he went about in ragged clothes, crying out, "Unclean! Unclean!"

One day, when the little girl had finished her work, she sat down to rest. She began to think about her master. She felt very sorry for him, and wished that it were in her power to help him. And as she sat thinking she remembered that in the town in which she used to live there was a Prophet of God. And she said to herself, "I am sure the Prophet could help my master, could tell him how he could be cured of his leprosy. Now, I can see a way by which I can help my master. Perhaps the Lord has let me be brought here so that I could work for Him. I will go to my mistress and tell her about the Prophet." So she went to her mistress and said, "I wish my master were in the town where I used to live."

"Why do you wish that?" the woman asked.

"Because," said the little girl, "there is a Prophet of the Lord there, and he could cure my master."

One of the servants heard this, and ran into the room where the captain was and said to him, "Master, you remember the little Israelitish maiden you took captive from Palestine?"

The captain said, "Yes, what about her?"

"Well, she said just now that if you were where she used to live you could be healed."

"How could I be healed?" asked the captain.

"She says there is a Prophet of the Lord there, and he would tell you how you could be healed." And the servant left the room.

The captain thought and thought about this: "A Prophet in Israel could heal me! A Prophet in Israel could heal me!" he kept saying to himself. After a while he called to his servant: "Go to the king of Israel," he said, "and tell him to ask the Prophet of the Lord to heal me of this leprosy."

So the servant went to the king of Israel, and told him to ask the Prophet of the Lord to heal Naaman. When the Prophet heard the message, he said to the servant, "Tell Naaman to wash himself seven times in the river Jordan and he will be healed of his leprosy."

The captain did as the Prophet said and he was cured and made whole. He was very thankful to the little Israelitish girl for telling him about the Prophet. She, of course, felt happy, because her master was well again. But she told him he ought to give thanks to the Lord, for it was really the Lord who had healed him.

*Questions:* How did the little girl happen to be in the home of the captain? What do you think of the little girl? To whom did she go for comfort? How was her master afflicted? How did the little girl know that the Prophet of the Lord could heal her master? What did the Prophet tell the captain to do? What was the result? How did the little girl work for the Lord as well as for her master? And that little girl teaches us a lesson today. What is it?

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell of ways in which they can help their parents and others.

*Song:* First verse of opening song.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 28—KINDNESS.

*Song:* First verse of "Let Us Oft Speak Kind Words to Each Other" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 265.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

“Little deeds of kindness,  
 Little words of love,  
 Make the earth an Eden  
 Like the heaven above.”

There is a great deal of sorrow and misery in the world because people are not kind to each other. Think of the terrible European war, in which so many thousands of lives have been lost. Now, this war would never have taken place if the nations engaged in it had learned the lesson you are learning today—to treat each other kindly.

Has any of you ever seen a bird’s nest? Where was it? Did you see the nest when there were young birds in it? And you remember how the little birds huddled close together to keep each other warm. They did not quarrel like boys and girls do sometimes. If little birds in a nest were to quarrel perhaps some of them would fall out of the nest and get killed. I think we can learn a lesson from the little birds in the nest. Repeat this little verse after me:

“Birds in their little nests agree,  
 And ’tis a shameful sight,  
 When children of one family  
 Fall out and chide and fight.”

And as it is a shameful sight to see children of one family fall out and fight, so it is shameful to see people of different nations—but who are all children of the same Heavenly Father—fight with and slay each other.

The Heavenly Father wants His children here on the earth to be kind to each other and to love one another. And it pleases Him greatly when they do this. I read a story a few days ago about a little girl who did a kind act to another little girl, and the story made me feel good, and I felt after I had read it that I wanted to be like the little girl and be kind and helpful to some one. And as I wondered who I could help, a little voice whispered to me, “You can help

the little boys and girls in the Religion Class. You can teach them to be good and kind, and they in turn will help others." So I decided that today I would tell you about the kind act which the little girl did. Tell, in your own language, the following:

"A gentleman in the West, while addressing a Sunday School, noticed a little girl, shabbily dressed and barefooted, shrinking in a corner, her little sunburnt face buried in her hands, the tears trickling between her small, brown fingers, and sobbing as if her heart would break. Soon, however, another little girl, about eleven years old, got up and went to her, and, taking her by the hand, led her to a brook near by, seated her upon a log, and, kneeling beside her, bathe'd her hot eyes and tear-stained face, and smoothe'd her tangled hair, in a cheery manner all the while. The little one brightened up, the tears all went, and smiles came creeping over her face instead. The gentleman stepping forward, said, 'Is this your sister, my dear?'

"'No, sir,' answered the little girl: 'I have no sister.'

"'Oh, one of the neighbor's children,' replied the man. 'A little schoolmate, perhaps?'

"'No, sir; she is a stranger to me. I do not know where she came from; I never saw her before.'

"'Then how came you to take her out and have such a care for her, if you do not know her?'

"'Because she is a stranger, sir, and seemed all alone, with nobody to be kind to her.' " (From the Primer of Politeness, J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.)

*Questions:* What is the cause of much of the sorrow and misery in the world? What would have prevented the great European war? What lesson may we learn from little birds in a nest? What do you think of the little girl who was kind to the little stranger?

*Testimonies:* Lead the children to tell of ways in which they can show 'kindness—to parents, teachers, playmates, and others.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer in concert.*

## LESSON 29—KINDNESS.

*Song:* First verse of "Let Us Oft Speak Kind Words to Each Other" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 265.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:*

"Little deeds of kindness,  
 Little words of love,  
 Make the earth an Eden  
 Like the heaven above."

How many of you have heard of Mexico? You know, there has been a great deal of trouble in Mexico. The Mexicans have had wars among themselves, and many thousands of lives have been lost. And one night a large number of Mexicans came over from Mexico into Arizona and killed a number of American soldiers. What happened then? Yes, United States troops were sent into Mexico to try to capture the murderers. And the United States Government called for volunteers to go down and protect the border. And thousands of young men enlisted and went to serve their country.

Frank and Mary Thompson stood with their father and mother at the depot in Salt Lake City watching the troops leave for the Mexican border. Frank is ten years of age and Mary is eight. When the family returned home Frank said, "I wish I were old enough to join the National Guard. I, too, would go and fight for my country."

"That would be a brave, patriotic thing for you to do, Frank," said his father.

"Yes," said Mary, "and if I were a big girl I would be a Red Cross nurse. I would just love to go and care for the wounded soldiers."

Mrs. Thompson looked at her husband and smiled. "Father," she said, "there are many great things that boys and girls think they would do if they were men and women. I wonder if they really would do all they think they would do. No, I don't think they would."

"What makes you think so, mother," asked Mr. Thompson.

"Because," said the good woman, "there are so many little things that boys and girls should do, but don't do, that I am afraid they wouldn't do great things if they were men and women."

"I think so, too," said the father.

Then turning to her children Mrs. Thompson said, "Children, it is the little things in life that count. Jesus said that he that would give a cup of cold water to one of His disciples would in no wise lose his reward. Jesus told a beautiful story once. I know you have heard it in Sunday School and Primary, but I would like you to hear it again."

"Yes, mother," said Frank, "we would like to hear you tell it."

"One day," said Mrs. Thompson, "a lawyer came to Jesus and said, 'Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' Perhaps the man expected Jesus to tell him to do some great thing. If he did, he must have been greatly disappointed, for Christ simply said, 'What do you read in the law?' The lawyer answered, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbor as thyself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus. 'Do this and you shall have eternal life.'

"Then the lawyer said to Jesus, 'Who is my neighbor?' And in reply Jesus told him the following story: 'Once a certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and left him half-dead. Some time later a certain priest chanced to pass that way. He saw the poor traveler lying naked and wounded at the side of the road, but he passed him by. A little later another man, a Levite, came along. He, too, saw the man who had been beaten and robbed, and the Levite also passed by without rendering him any assistance. Then came a Samaritan, and when he saw the man lying in a helpless state he immediately got down off the animal he was riding, hastened to the side of the sufferer, and began to care for him. He washed the blood from his wounds, poured wine and oil into them, and bound them up. Then he placed the man on the back of

the animal and took him to a hotel. He gave the hotel keeper money, told him to take good care of the man, and said that when he came back he would give him more money if he had not paid enough.' Then Jesus turned to the lawyer and asked, 'Which of these three men was neighbor to the man who was attacked, beaten and robbed?' The lawyer answered, 'He that showed kindness to him.' And Jesus said, 'Go and do thou likewise.'

"Now children," said Mrs. Thompson, "what do you think of the priest and the Levite?"

"I think they were very unkind," said Frank.

"I think so, too," said Mary.

"You feel sure," said the mother, "that if you had seen the poor man you would have helped him?"

"Yes, ma'am," they both answered promptly.

"I wonder if you would," said the mother.

"Of course we would," said the children.

"Well," said the mother, "more than a month ago little George Brown had to leave school and come home and go to bed because of leakage of the heart. Neither of you has been to see him, to read to him, or help him in any way. A week ago old Sister Erickson came home from the hospital after having undergone an operation. Last Sunday you and three other children clubbed together and bought a quarter's worth of ice-cream. You got six measures full—one measure full each and one over—and yet you did not think of taking the extra measure full over to the poor old lady. Old Brother Taylor, who lives at the foot of the street is all crippled up with rheumatism. Yet I have seen him go out and chop his wood and carry in his coal, because there wasn't a boy in the street who thought of playing the part of the good Samaritan. And there is Sister Rogers who was laid up for several days with quinsy, and there wasn't a little girl to go in and wash her dishes or tend her baby. This work had to be done by members of the Relief Society."

Frank and Mary looked at each other. They felt condemned. Then Frank said, "Mary, it seems to me there is lots for you and me to do around home."

*Questions:* What did Frank say he would do if he

were old enough? What did Mary say she would do? What did their mother think? What question did the lawyer ask Jesus? What did Jesus tell him to do? What do you think of the priest and the Levite? Of the Samaritan? In what respect did Mary and Frank resemble the priest and the Levite? How did they feel after they had heard the story?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.

## LESSON 30—CHEERFULNESS.

*Song:* First verse of "Jesus Wants Me For a Sunbeam" (Deseret Sunday School Songs, No. 211.)

*Prayer* in concert.

*Memory Gem:* "Rejoice in the Lord alway."

A short time ago I saw a lot of flowers growing up lattice work in front of a home. They were beautiful. When I passed the home in the morning all the petals of the flowers were closed. When I was returning at noon they were all open. What opened the petals? (The sun.) In the evening all the petals closed again? Why? (Because the sun had gone down.)

Now, people are like flowers. Their hearts open to love and kindness and cheerfulness, as the flowers open to the sunshine. But when the sun goes down the flowers close their petals and wait till it comes up again. And in like manner does crossness and unkindness close the hearts of people.

Our memory gem today tells us to "rejoice in the Lord alway." People who serve the Lord and keep His commandments are happy. Those who serve the evil one are unhappy. Once there were two brothers. One was named Cain, the other was named Abel. They were sons of Adam and Eve. Cain was a farmer and Able was a keeper of sheep. Abel was a good young man. He was obedient to his parents and also to the Lord. He did just as the Lord commanded him, and he was very happy.

But it was far different with Cain. He was not a good son. He did not love and honor his parents, neither did he do as the Lord wished him to do. And he was not happy, he was miserable. He was jealous of his brother, and this helped to make him cross and disagreeable and mean.

One day when the two brothers were out in the field Cain killed Abel. Cain hid his brother's dead body, thinking no one would find it. But it was found. The Lord found it. Now, after Cain had killed his brother Abel he was more unhappy than ever. He looked wretched and miserable. The Lord appeared to him, and said, "Abel, why are you so cross? What have you done that you look so unhappy? Where is your brother Abel?"

Cain dare not look the Lord in the face. He hung his head and answered sharply, "I do not know where my brother is. Am I my brother's keeper?" Just think of Cain speaking that way to the Lord! And think also of him telling the Lord a falsehood!

Then the Lord said to Cain, "You do know where your brother Abel is. You killed him, and his blood is crying to me from the ground. That is the reason why you are looking so mean and wretched. That is why you are so unhappy. Your sin will follow you all the days of your life. You will be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth, and you will never be happy." Truly "the way of the transgressor is hard."

Let us repeat the memory gem again: "Rejoice in the Lord alway." Did you notice the last word—alway? What does alway mean? It means every day and every hour of the day. A few evenings ago I saw a number of little girls having a very good time skipping the rope. They were jumping and laughing and seemed to be very happy. A mother came to the door and called one of the little girls to her. She wanted her little daughter to help wash and dry the supper dishes. Now, how do you think that little girl acted? Why, she got cross and angry, and that was the way she was all the time she was helping with the dishes. She was very unhappy, and she made her mother feel very unhappy, too.

What do you think the Lord would have said to that

little girl if He had appeared to her and talked to her as He did to Cain? He would have asked, "Why are you so cross and angry and unhappy?" And she would have answered, "Because I have to help my mother wash and dry the dishes." What do you think of such an answer as that? I think that little girl was very foolish. What should she have done when her mother called her? She should have gone willingly, cheerfully. She should have found just as much pleasure in washing the dishes as she had in skipping the rope. And I will tell you how she would have found pleasure in her work. If she had just thought these thoughts: My mother has always been good and kind to me. The Lord has told me to honor my father and my mother. If I do this I know the Lord will bless me and I will be happy. I can show the Lord that I honor my mother by helping her wash and dry the dishes. I will do this work willingly, cheerfully. Then my mother will feel happy and I will feel happy.

It is the same with all our work. We can make our work a pleasure or we can make it a burden. It depends on the spirit in which we do our work. If we do it with a glad heart and a cheerful face it will be light and easy. If we do it in the same way in which the little girl washed the dishes it will be hard and disagreeable. So you see the scriptures are right which say, "Rejoice in the Lord alway."

*Questions:* What were the names of the two sons of Adam and Eve? Why was Abel happy? Why was Cain unhappy? What terrible crime did Cain commit? How did he feel then? What did the Lord say to him? What do you think of the little girl I told you about? How could she have made her mother and herself happy?

*Testimonies:* Along lines of lesson.

*Song:* Same as opening.

*Prayer* in concert.





